

Rural Revival Minutes

Date: April 24, 2023

Location: Freeman Public Library

Board Members Present: Brent Brockmueller, Beth Kaufman, Dennis Lehmann, Dee Millar, Lillie Eisenbeis, Phillip Eisenbeis.

Board Members Absent: Andre Eisenbeis, Roy Kaufman.

Members: Glen Wollman, Dennis Jurkovich, Tim Eisenbeis, Lyle Preheim.

Minutes from March Meeting:

Correction, forgot to note that Glen Wollman was at meeting. Motion to accept minutes with correction. Moved by Dee M, seconded by Glen Wollman. Unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report:

\$7632.21 in account. Recently spent \$200.00 for Freeman Farmers Market sign.

Committee Reports:

1. **Local Foods:** Tomorrow FCDC is having a meeting. It will decide how to promote the farmers market the second Wednesday of each month.
2. **Education:** Hope to ask a representative from Merchants State Bank to speak
3. **Land Access:** Austin Unruh is renting our land again this year. There was a suggestion to have an outing to see the land with Austin as our guide

Visioning The Future Of Freeman Community:

Tim E. shared why he would like us to address this topic. Five to six years ago he broached this topic when he was president of RR. He thinks it important that we share our hopes and dreams for not only Rural Revival but also the Freeman Community.

Lyle P. shared a comment from the author Carl Rebanks, "*There is a fine line between Idealism and bullshit.*"

Other random comments:

Agriculture and economics is the primary vision. Do we form a vision on what the data are showing? What do we base reality on? Climate change and how it affects agriculture was brought up. There may be many solutions to the challenge of climate change. Different parts of the world have different solutions

- What about a local visioning conference or workshop? What would entice people to attend? Are personal invitations the best method? Where would we have this conference? Arboretum? the bandshell? outside on the arboretum grounds, Community Center? Pioneer Hall basement? Cindy and David Graber Barn?
- What time of day? Late morning when brains work better. Meet in the morning with a full hour off during lunch followed by an afternoon session. First three hours are important.
- Should we have presentations on trends in different areas?
- What time span are we covering? Where do we hope to be in 5 years, 15 years?
- Do we need a presentation on the history of agriculture?

- Should we provide childcare during the meeting for young farmers? FFA to do childcare? FFA as participants?
- Would we have small round table discussions? Maybe Dakota Rural Action would have resource people to lead the discussion.
- What do we want this community to look like in 5,10 15 years? The results of a changing climate can so quickly affect our visioning. Can 5 years be a realistic time for visioning?
- One of the major forces in visioning is land prices. There are so many unknowns so how can we be responsive to these changes? What choices can we make collectively to adapt to these changes? Specifics are not helpful, but what framework can we have to make us more adaptable? Values have an important place when visioning the future.
- We plan to continue the visioning discussion at future meetings.

Motion To Adjourn:

Made by Dee M. and seconded by Dennis J. Unanimously passed

Next Meeting:

Monday, May 22,2023 at 7:30 P.M.

Please remember to pay \$20.00 membership fee

Minutes submitted by Dennis Lehmann