

Sonoma County Fair
DRAFT Minutes of the
Competitive Exhibits, Agriculture and Educational Exhibits Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.
Administration Building, Board Room

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Annette O’Kelley, Chair; Doug Beretta, Vice-Chair; Marilyn Herzog, Marcia Mickelson, Bev Palm, Cindy Crane

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHER DIRECTORS PRESENT: Rob Muelrath; Tony Geraldi

OTHERS PRESENT: Heather Borck, Paulette Swallow, Becky Bartling, Kaitlyn Findley-Thorn, Lenore Ryan, Barbara Walker

The meeting was called to order by Chair O’Kelley at 5:32 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Director Beretta moved to approve the agenda; Director Herzog seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

Update: 2019 Hall Of Flowers Greg Duncan:

Flower show Designer Greg Duncan reported about the progress on planning for the Hall of Flowers. He shared sketches with the committee. Posters were viewed by all present and some members inquired about the layout and theme art work.

Discussion and Possible Action: Dog Agility Addition

Lenore Ryan presented to the group some information about the possible addition of an agility section to the dog show. She explained that she currently has 16 4-H members involved in the all-county 4-H club and that it may increase participation in the dog show as well as provide an event that the public enjoys. **Director Herzog moved to approve the addition of agility to the dog show; the motion was seconded by Director Palm; motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion and Possible Action: Horse Show

Exhibits Coordinator Borck reported about meeting with the horse advisory committee where Barbara Walker and Ron Zanetti presented a list of horse show changes. The committee believes the changes will increase participation in the show. The exhibits office and committee supported the efforts. **Director Mickelson moved to approve the horse show proposal; Director Beretta seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. (Proposal attached.)**

Discussion and Possible Action: Request for DeMolay Uniform Acceptance

Exhibits Coordinator Borck presented the a proposal received by John Monahan, who is a leader to a group of independent juniors that are members of Demolay. The request was to allow the exhibitors to wear a white shirt with the group’s emblem on the back. Borck explained the current uniform policy and exceptions made in the past for others. After several points of discussion Director Beretta expressed concern that other independent juniors will form groups

and request uniform modifications. Ultimately because this is an already established group with historical identity it was supported by the exhibits office and several board members to allow the group to have identity within the fair. **Director Herzog moved to allow a small patch with the logo on the front of the shirt with a request to see proof prior to final approval; Director Mickelson seconded the motion; the motion passed.**

Discussion and Possible Action: BBQ Use Policy

The committee discussed a potential policy for those that may use the BBQ purchased at the 2018 Fair. Upon further investigation into rental and liability policies, it was recommended that the board not loan out the BBQ to other groups. **No action was taken.**

Discussion and Possible Action: Auctioneers

Conversation took place regarding the 2018 auctions and some of the logistics that can be slightly altered. Direction was given to staff to extend contracts. It was also recommended that younger interest be encouraged to attend and help as ring man and possibly participate in auctioning a few lots.

Discussion and Possible Action: Ag Recognition Awards

Exhibits Coordinator Borck presented the recommendation of Outstanding Award Nominees from the appropriate committees. **Director Mickelson moved to approve (Names Omitted until Honorees Contacted) for Outstanding North Bay Rancher, Outstanding Dairy of the Year and Award of Excellence in the Horse Industry respectively; Director Herzog seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion and Possible Action: Hall of Flowers Dedication

Directors discussed possible candidates for the Hall of flowers dedication **Director Herzog moved to dedicate the Hall of Flowers to (Name Omitted until Honoree Contacted); Director Herzog seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion and Possible Action: Guidebook Dedication

Directors discussed possible candidates for the Guidebook dedication. **Director Herzog moved to dedicate the guidebook to (Name Omitted until Honoree Contacted); Director Beretta seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion and Possible Action: 2019 contract with Duncan Designs, NTE \$72K

Director Crane moved to approve the 2019 contract with Duncan Designs NTE \$72K, Director Herzog seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Staff Update

1. Sonoma County Fair Judges: Most Judges have been contracted for 2019 fair. Current list was distributed in the packet.
2. Ag Days: The Sonoma County Farm Bureau Ag days will take place March 12 and 13. A sign-up sheet was distributed.
3. Poultry Shows: Newcastle disease is currently an issue in Southern California. Shows that have a direct connection with birds from the four connected counties are currently recommended to be cancelled. It was also recommended that spring shows be cancelled. The exhibits office is monitoring updates from CDFA, for now the poultry show will still occur in August.
4. NorCal Brew Competition: The completion will take place April 20. Entries are currently being accepted.

5. Award Ceremony: The award ceremony will not take place in the Veterans memorial building as the floors will be refinished during the fair. The Farm Bureau has indicated they will not be sponsoring the awards breakfast. A new location on the fairgrounds is still being determined.
6. Ag Education Activities: The exhibits office is creating a plan for agriculture education activities during the fair. Location will be in part of the Garden Annex or the Southside of the Finley Building.
7. Award Sponsorship: Award sponsorships are being returned for 2019. A list of awards available for sponsorship were presented.
8. Fair Photography: Photography contract will be renewed with Tracy Bjornestad for 2019
9. Garden Selection Meetings: February 20 and 21

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (non discussion items):

- a. Advisory Committee Roles
- b. Show Etiquette Policy
- c. Auction Announcements
- d. Award Ceremony

Adjournment

Director Crane moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m., seconded by Director Palm, motion passed unanimously.

Horse Show Proposal

The Horse Advisory Committee Recommends:

- Addition of Novice Open and Open classes (Addition of 11 classes without Ranch Horse; with ranch horse addition of 17 classes).
- Reinstate English Hunter Hack, Hunters Over Fences, and Equitation Over Fences classes removed in 2018
- Addition of three ranch horse divisions
- Addition of Hipology competition:
 - A written test demonstration equine knowledge.
 - Will occur simultaneously to the horse show.
- Horse Advisory is willing to help secure sponsorship.