

Sonoma County Fair
**APPROVED Minutes of the
Competitive Exhibits, Agriculture and Educational Exhibits Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at approximately 5:00 p.m.

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 the February 9, 2021 the Meeting of Sonoma County Fair Competitive Exhibits & Education Exhibits Committee meeting was held virtually. All actions were voted on by roll call.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Annette O'Kelley, Chair; Kanani Reynolds, Vice-Chair; Bev Palm, Marilyn Herzog, Marcia Mickelson, Sharon Wright

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHER DIRECTORS PRESENT: Neysa Hinton

OTHERS PRESENT: Becky Bartling, Heather Borck, Greg Duncan, Kaitlyn Findley-Thorn, Michael Margetts, Debra Townsend, Becky Bartling

The meeting was called to order by Chair O'Kelley at 5:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Director Herzog moved to approve the agenda; Director Mickelson seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously (O'Kelley, yes; Reynolds, yes; Palm, yes; Herzog, yes; Mickelson, yes; Wright, yes).

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

REPORT FROM ALTERNATE FAIR ACTIVITIES AD HOC COMMITTEE

Chair O'Kelley reported that the Ad Hoc committee met January 23, February 2 and with livestock advisory members on February 8. During the February 8 meeting the agenda consisted of: 1) Welcome, 2) Background, 3) Dates, 4) Judges, 5) Fundraising, 6) Ideas/Concerns. The meeting was well attended by livestock advisory committee members. There was positive feedback about the ad hoc committee's recommendations and that fundraising could be accomplished to support this effort.

Chair O'Kelley reported that:

- The preferred option is to hold a fair in 2021, the second option is to hold a Market Grading, the third option if a Market Grading cannot be held is to hold a livestock auction.
- A market grading & auction is being looked at as an option as CDFA has shared a COVID protocol document with fairs.
- The market grading will include market steers, lambs, goats, hogs, rabbits and poultry.
- It should be made clear to exhibitors that with or without a fair, a livestock auction will be held.
- The preference from the livestock advisory committee members is to hold the market grading activity the last week of July.
- In order for the grading to occur the required funds must be raised. The cost of the auction will still be funded by the sale commissions as in past years.
- A pledge form will be created so that financial pledges can be received.
- It was discussed that a deadline for pledge money to be received by the fair should be determined.
- The market grading event must be approved by the Department of Health.
- Director Herzog has some leads on potential sponsors.
- It was suggested that perhaps a sponsorship list could be generated to ensure that board members were not talking with the same sponsors.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: REGARDING ALTERANATE 2021 FAIR ACTIVITIES

Based on the recommendations from the Ad Hoc Committee the following motions were made.

Director Reynolds moved that a 2021 Junior Livestock Auction should be held and that if there is not a 2021 Sonoma County Fair a junior livestock market grading should be held; **Director Herzog** seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. (O’Kelley, yes; Reynolds, yes; Palm, yes; Herzog, yes; Mickelson, yes; Wright, yes).

Director Mickelson moved market livestock grading pledge funds should be due June 1; **Director Herzog** seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. (O’Kelley, yes; Reynolds, yes; Palm, yes; Herzog, yes; Mickelson, yes; Wright, yes).

Director Mickelson moved that market livestock grading dates should be July 29-August 1; motion seconded by **Director Wright**; motion passed unanimously. (O’Kelley, yes; Reynolds, yes; Palm, yes; Herzog, yes; Mickelson, yes; Wright, yes).

DISUCSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION: REGARDING 2021 FAIR

Chair O’Kelley explained that a discussion took place during the Fair Operations committee meeting regarding a recommendation that the Hall of Flowers be postponed until 2022. A discussion took place regarding the postponement of professional and amateur gardens and that an opportunity for junior gardens could still be offered.

UPDATE: 2021 STATE RULES

Exhibits Coordinator Borck reported that the 2021 State Rules document is available. Changes for 2021 mostly included a revision of requirements for animals entering the state.

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Final Pledge Form

Director Wright moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 p.m., seconded by **Director Mickelson**; motion passed unanimously. (O’Kelley, yes; Reynolds, yes; Palm, yes; Herzog, yes; Mickelson, yes; Wright, yes).