

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

Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 the July 14, 2020 the Special Meeting of Sonoma County Fair Competitive Exhibits & Education Exhibits Committee meeting was held virtually. All actions were voted on by roll call.

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Cindy Crane

OTHER DIRECTORS PRESENT: Tony Gerald, Ross Liscum, Max Mickelsen,

OTHERS PRESENT: Paulette Swallow, Becky Bartling, Heather Borck, Kaitlyn Findley-Thorn, Pat Emery, Christine Margetts, Michael Margetts

The meeting was called to order by Chair Howe at 5:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Director O'Kelley moved to approve the agenda; Director Mickelson seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None

UPDATE MAREKT ANIMAL ENTRIES

Chair Howe reported that there are 330 animals entered into the auction. 177 hogs, 69 lambs, 13 goats, and 71 steers

Discussion and Possible Action: 2020 SONOMA COUNTY FAIR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Exhibits Coordinator Borck informed the committee that the Sale Catalog is now available. It can be found on the livestock exhibitor page as well as auction page. The auction page can be reached from a link on the event center homepage. Exhibitors have until July 17 to turn in photos or to scratch from the auction. As they are scratching the lot numbers are not changing. It is clearly indicated in the catalog if an animal has been scratched. She reported that she met with the company that will provide livestreaming. In order to livestream the sound of the auction we will need to use their sound system, not the system located in the Saralee Building.

An email was sent to all solicitors containing information regarding the numbers, sale catalog available, and auction process. The office has been following up with phone calls to all solicitors. There is definite concern among some solicitors regarding being in the same room for the amount of time to complete the auction. There are others with no concern. The entire spectrum is represented. Three of the top ten solicitors indicated they would prefer the auction to be online.

Borck stressed that this is still a changing situation in the county and that she is concerned that we are going to be told to change our plans. COVID numbers in the county continue to increase, the Governor announced further restrictions for counties on the watch list as of Monday. She recommends that due to the recent changes within the county, the possibility of a last minute cancellation, as well as safety concerns among participants, the auction should move online.

A lengthy discussion occurred regarding the virtual process and concerns such as the many changes to the process so far, the ability to announce the buyers and to slow the auction down if solicitors need to

catch up as well as a concern about solicitors feeling comfortable utilizing the technology, Ultimately the motion was made. **Director O'Kelley moved to hold the 2020 Sonoma County Fair as an Online Hybrid Auction; Director Reynolds seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.** The committee clarified that the auction would consist of on an online virtual live-auction with the option for a few solicitors to be at the fairgrounds on their computers if they need a place to exchange cards.

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Virtual Auction Update

Flower Show Scholarship Requirements

ADJOURNMENT

Director Mickelson moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m., seconded by Director Palm, motion passed unanimously.