

Sonoma County Fair
APPROVED Minutes of the
Fair Operations Committee Meeting
Tuesday – November 10, 2020 at 4:30pm

In accordance with Executive Order N-29-20 the November 10, 2020 Sonoma County Fair Operations Committee meeting was held virtually.
All actions were voted on by roll call.

VOTING-DIRECTORS PRESENT: Lisa Wittke Schaffner, Chair; Tony Geraldi, Vice Chair; Wanda Tapia, Neysa Hinton, Bev Palm

VOTING-DIRECTORS ABSENT: Kanani Reynolds

NON-VOTING DIRECTORS PRESENT: Marcia Mickelson, Annette O’Kelley, Marilyn Herzog, Cindy Crane

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

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wittke Schaffner at 4:31p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Director Palm moved to approve the agenda; Director Hinton seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING 2021 FAIR:

CEO Bartling reported that staff is working on two budgets, one with a Fair and one without mass gatherings. Bartling stated that even if a vaccine is available, there would still be several considerations to take into consideration, and recommended fares should be kept at 2019 rates. Since it is likely a vaccine for children may not be available until later in 2021, Fair may need to be “adult themed” with a carnival, food/beverage, alcohol, beer competition and wine tasting. The committee needs to start thinking about areas that may need to be cut, such as concerts. A decision regarding Fair vs No Fair will need to be made by February 2021. Bartling added that the 2021 Race Meet dates still have not be determined, and that the next CHRB board meeting is scheduled for November. No action taken.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES FOR 2021 FAIR:

Note: This item was discussed in tandem with the above agenda item. CEO Bartling added that a “Fall Festival” in October, with a carnival, food and wine tasting, may be a possibility. No action taken.

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

None

There being no further business, Director Tapia moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:48p.m., seconded by Director Palm; the motion passed unanimously.