

Sonoma County Fair
APPROVED Minutes of the
Fair Operations Committee Meeting
Tuesday, March 10, 2020
Showcase Café

VOTING-DIRECTORS PRESENT: Lisa Wittke Schaffner, Kevin Howe, Bev Palm, Neysa Hinton

VOTING-DIRECTORS ABSENT: Wanda Tapia

NON-VOTING DIRECTORS PRESENT: Annette O'Kelley, Max Mickelsen, Marcia Mickelson, Cindy Crane,

OTHERS PRESENT: Becky Bartling, Kaitlyn Findley- Thorn, Lorna Fox, Paulette Swallow, Heather Borck, Jane Engdahl, Shari DeGraffenreid

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wittke Schaffner at 5:00PM

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

DISCUSSION REGARDING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT THE 2020 SONOMA COUNTY FAIR:

CEO Bartling reported on the bands that have been confirmed for the Community Stage and she is working with Maggie LeClerc for the Sunday Hispanic bands.

WFA ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS:

COO Findley-Thorn distributed a handout that referenced the awards that the Sonoma County Fair won from the 2020 WFA. CEO Bartling gave kudos to Exhibits Coordinator Borck and Emily Janowski for their efforts in applying for the categories.

UPDATE ON WASHED ASHORE EXHIBIT:

CEO Bartling gave an update on the Washed Ashore exhibit and is working with Parks & Recs Department on possible displays by them.

UPDATE FROM AD HOC NEW FAIR ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:

CEO Bartling stated she is working with Spectra to do the Wine Grotto at the fair with possible local wineries showcasing their wines on certain days.

UPDATE ON PRE-FAIR ACTIVITIES AND TRAVELING FAIR:

Special Events Coordinator Engdahl gave an update on the traveling fair and the pre-fair fun booklet that goes out to schools. COO Findley-Thorn reported that she is working on having corn hole contests at the Community Theater.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BLUE RIBBON AWARD:

A listing of past Blue Ribbon awardees and the recommendations for future awardees was distributed. It will go to the Full Board meeting on March 24th for consideration. No action taken.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FREE KID'S ADMISSION ON THE FIRST THURSDAY (8/6) AND FIRST MONDAY (8/10):

CEO Bartling stated that since the second Thursday of the Fair now falls within the school year, she recommended that we have one of the free Kid's Day admission days as Monday, August 10th. **Director Hinton moved to hold the Kid's Day free admission on Thursday, August 6th and Monday, August 10th; Director Howe seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.**

DIRECTOR PATIO ON OPENING DAY:

CEO Bartling stated that since the fair opens at 3:00PM on opening day (8/5), do the Directors still want to have a luncheon on the patio that day. Several options were discussed, including a reception for the opening of the Washed Ashore exhibit.

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Opening day – Patio activities

There being no further business, Director Wittke Schaffner adjourned the meeting at 5:41PM.