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PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY FAIRS

MINUTES**FALL MEETING**

OCTOBER 16, 2014 – 11AM

CENTRE HALL, PA

John Blaney called the meeting to order. Kevin Bieber led the Pledge of Allegiance and Bob Houston offered prayer. Roll Call - present were C Sherman Allen, John Berne, John Blaney Jr., Kevin Bieber, Luke Bruckhart, James Davis, Roger Dirlam, Karen Dobson, Andrew Goodman, Susan Hahn, David Hallstrom, Boots Hetherington, Gala Higinbotham, Dick Horstman, Judy Kmetz, Craig Lash, John McMullen, Jeanne Miller, Ron Miller, Sally Nolt, Rodman Ralston, David Reese, Harry Reffner, William Ritzman, George Witherite, and Samuel Zaffuto. Martha Ebersole, and Debbie Stephenson were excused. Also in attendance – Bob Houston, Bruce Koppenhaver, Larry Krome, Bitsey Kopfinger, and Jack Snyder. MINUTES OF SPRING MEETING – were posted on the website. Ron Miller made the motion to accept the Minutes, 2nd by Roger Dirlam, carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Harry Reffner

- The balance sheet is showing \$12,000 more at this time compared to last year.
- Quick Books does not handle transfers to show proper income or expense on the Financial reports, the transfers to show on the respective registers. Harry handed out a summary of the proper income and expense. Further transfers will be handled manually to reflect the income and expense.
- Queen's travel to fairs were paid for both 2013 and 2014.
- Audit for Clyde, Ferraro has been mailed.
- Baking checks mailed out late September
- Scholarship – short approximately \$300, since the end of year \$80 has been received. The Fall 2013 meeting accept a motion to fund the difference from the Convention account.

Sally made the motion to accept the treasure's report 2nd by Roger Dirlam, carried.

ASSOCIATION UPDATE

- Cameron County Fair has not paid their dues. Baking check has not been mailed, Queen committee has been made aware.
- Convention packets will be available at next week's zone meeting.
 - Late registration begins Dec 16th
 - Increase of registration for \$25 to \$30
 - Late registration increasing from \$40 to \$50
 - Meal prices to remain the same
 - Lunches in Trade show have been eliminated due to lack of participation
- Website nearing completion.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

REPORT FROM THE ASSOCIATES – Galla Higinbotham

Thank you to the fairs using associates. Trade show better each year. Lot of interest.

PA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – Boots Hetherington

2013-2014 Reimbursements of \$2,743,000, \$256,000 capital improvements shared by 19 fairs.

2014-2015 \$2.75 million, \$250,000 capital improvements, 66 fairs with 100 projects have applied.

Advisory board to meet Nov. 7.

Issue – Judge must be in ring to judge to apply for reimbursement, discussion followed.

Fair Ambassador over 80 this year.

Next year elections concern over funding if politics change.

PASSING OF MIKE WAUGHT – Ron Miller/Andy Goodman

Memorial service for Mike is Monday 6 pm at the Farm Show. Andy “Kindest gentleman, totally honorable man.”

LOBBYIST REPORT – see report from Milliron & Goodman Associates

Andy asked that we call our representatives and let them know of the importance of fairs, and ask their continual support and Thank them. Andy asked for \$1,000 to be used for a reception of the legislators. A letter asking for an increase in their fee was sent to John Blaney.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

LEGISLATIVE – John Blaney

John presented the letter requesting an increase, Ron moved to accept, Roger 2nd, carried.

BUDGET – Ron Miller

The proposed budget was presented by Ron, after review and with the increase being requested by Milliron & Goodman and a request from them for the reception. Discussion as to the need of the lobbyist group attend the Zone meetings, the board agreed that it was not necessary. Ron made the motion to accept the budget, 2nd by Roger Dirlam, carried. Harry will notify Milliron & Goodman of the decisions.

BY-LAWS – Roger Dirlam

Roger has requested copies of By-Laws from other states, Harry will check into getting copies for the committee.

AUDITING – Rod Ralston

Audit to Clyde, Ferraro, 990 to follow.

ANIMAL HEALTH – David Reese

PEDv 2 vaccines approved, cases dropping.

SPECIAL BAKING – Karen Dobson, Kevin Bieber – attached

Awaiting summaries to come in, Farm Show.

QUEEN – John Berne

Zone 2 & 4 will be electing a representative. The Queen attended 17 fairs, the alternate attended 3. Flyers available at Zone meetings.

FAIR PERSON – Bruce Koppenhaver

No applications have been received, Harry will have applications available at Zone meetings.

JR. FAIR PERSON – Sherman Allen

Discussion of early date for candidates, time for zones to evaluate and ordering of plaques. Possible to give a certificate and then deliver the plaque at convention to the Fair.

ECONOMIC IMPACT – John Blaney

Copies are still available, contact Harry if you need additional copies.

WEBSITE – Harry Refner

Harry presented the committee’s findings. Reviewing their process, the costs from two companies, Beyond Dots and Spots from Pittsburgh, and Saffire from Texas. The committee’s recommendation was to select Saffire for the designer, 2nd by Jim Davis, carried.

CONVENTION –

SPOUSE PROGRAM – Dr. David Reese

Same as last year, noted that the company that baskets were ordered from has gone out of business, however 2015 baskets were purchased at the 2014 convention.

SPONSORSHIPS – Harry Refner

Power Pulling will not be a major sponsor this year, Waste Management has not responded. A need to find a major sponsor exists.

TRADE SHOW – Dick Horstman

Have 12 reservations in hand.

ROOMS – Dr. Sally Nolt

Reservations will be made by Sally with those that she obtained today.

SEMINARS – Kevin Bieber

All lined up ready to go.

TABLE TOPICS – John Blaney

Ready to go

SHOWCASE – Sam Zaffuto

Over 30 today and more to be coming.

MSGR. SCHOLARSHIP – Jim Davis

Kayla Wright, Zone III, Huntingdon County Fair
Morgan Gizzi, Zone IV, Elizabethtown Fair
Simone A. Lichty, Zone II, Tioga County Fair
Amber Gabel, Zone IV, Perry County Community Fair
Emily D. Housler, Zone I, McKean County Fair
Megan Forgy, Zone III, Huntingdon County Fair

MEMORIAL DISPLAY AT CONVENTION – John Berne

Encourage at zone meetings.

PA STATE AG COUNCIL – Jim Davis

Attended meeting prior to our meeting. Sat with Casey Hall who is a mentor to the Dean.
Research tours, clean water act – Chesapeake Bay.

SOUNDS & LIGHTS – Sam Zaffuto

Request by the Queen committee to change layout of the Chocolate Ball Room to accommodate additional queens. After discussion, George Witherite made the motion that PSACF pay for the additional rigging change for the size of the stage area for the current year only, next year funding will be discussed, Bill Ritzman 2nd, carried.

Further discussion regarding the portion of the Sounds & Lights that PSSA pays, Ron Miller made the motion that we do not charge PSSA for the increase of the stage, 2nd by Dick Horstman, carried. Sam to get the rigging cost for the current stage so as to bill PSSA without the increase size of the stage.

JUDGING SCHOOL –

To be held at Convention.

FARM SHOW – Ron Miller

100th anniversary of the Farm show books are being printed.

COUNCIL OF FARM ORGS – John Blaney

Meeting October 27th.

OLD BUSINESS – Prayers should be inspirational not mentioning any God.

NEW BUSINESS

IAFE MEETING LAS VEGAS

RIDE SAFETY BOARD

An appointment to the board needs to be made. Dick Horstman made the motion to recommend John Blaney, Ron Miller 2nd, carried.

FIREWORKS AT FAIRS

Ron Miller made the following motion, When planning or rescheduling fair entertainment events the entertainment committee should double check with the Livestock Superintendent to make sure that all outside livestock show events have been completed before a fireworks display is set off. This is especially important at our larger fairs where there is a multitude of events taking place at once. Secondly when an animal is done in the show ring it should be returned to a pen or loaded on a trailer for everyone's safety. 2nd by Roger Dirlam, carried.
Harry will place in December issue of FairTalk.

GRAY WATER

Discussion of collection or drain off of gray water.

OPERATION OF BINGO AT FAIR

Discussion of private people operating bingo using the Fairs license.

PIKE COUNTY

Wayne County Fair housed horses for the law enforcement task searching for the person who shot the State Police in Pike County.

Roger Dirlam moved for adjournment at 3:32.

Respectfully submitted



Harry Reffner
Exec Secretary/Treasurer