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PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY FAIRS

MINUTES**SPRING MEETING**

April 18, 2019 – 11AM

CENTRE HALL, PA

Sally Nolt called the meeting to order. Kevin Bieber led the Pledge of Allegiance and Karen Dobson offered prayer. Roll Call - present were C Sherman Allen, John Berne, Kevin Bieber, John Blaney Jr., Roger Dirlam, Karen Dobson, Martha Ebersole, Tony Frazier, Ben Haagen, Susan Hahn, Seth Kensinger, David Hallstrom, Judy Kmetz, Jana Malot, John McMullen, Jeanne Miller, Sally Nolt, Jim Reed, David Reese, Harry Reffner, Jeff Romesberg, Debbie Stephenson, Bryan Utegg, and Samuel Zaffuto. Absent Craig Lash. Honorary members, Bev Gruber, Byron Glessner, Ron Miller, and George Witherite. Members at Large – Tracy Barone, Kerry Lange, Gala Higinbotham. Guest from PSSA Allen Bartlebaugh. MINUTES OF FALL & CONVENTION MEETINGS – Harry Reffner Minutes of all 3 meetings were posted on the website. Debbie Stephenson made the motion to accept all Minutes from the Fall Meeting Pre & Post Convention, 2nd by Jim Reed, carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Harry Reffner**Referring to the Balance Sheet:**

Compared to last year we have approximately \$8,000 more in the accounts. However as I will mention in the General Fund we will be at approximately the same as last year.

Convention Account:

Approximately \$700 to be coming will transfer \$33,00 to savings.

The trade Show continues to be very profitable, and why the officers

Continue during zone meetings stress Fairs to support the exhibitors.

General Fund:

Approximately \$10,000 has not been paid for the baking premiums. There is \$6,000 of Fair dues still outstanding.

Savings Account:

Have been transferring from the savings into the general, after the \$33,000 transfer from the Convention account we will be \$7,000 ahead of last year at this time.

Scholarship:

The account is required to keep 2 years scholarship \$12,000 before scholarships can be given. When I first started, that was difficult without asking for donations. As you can see due to contributions we have 4 years available funds for scholarships. Largely due to the spouse program at Convention, however Zone 1 contributions and those from Fairs and individuals have been a factor.

CD accounts:

Due to Federal regulations, I have had to keep 2 CD accounts at another bank. Due to interest rates, they have maintained a slow growth.

John Blaney motioned to accept the treasurer's report, 2nd by Roger Dirlam, carried.

Association Update

IAFE Zone 1 Conference

Registration was 150, 22 attended from Pennsylvania.

The Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs did an excellent job of hosting the Conference, from the Resort, the speakers, the programs, the tour of the Union County Fair, and the banquets.

Kathryn Hunter from the Maine Association was nominated to replace current director Mark St Jacques. Kathryn will be placed into nomination at the 2019 IAFE Convention. I plan to have some of the seminars in the next issue of FairTalk.

York Fair will be hosting the 2020 Conference May 7, 8, & 9th. Flyers on the table, more info will be coming.

House Bill 996 restriction of transporting animals

More from our Legislative Consultant and Rep Millard later in our meeting.

CBD

An inquiry came from a Zone 4 Fair regarding sale of CBD Oils and Creams. Is this a product that is allowed to be displayed and sold at PA Fairs? The reply from the Department of Ag. The sale of these products doesn't violate our agreements with the fairs. The state of the laws regulating these sorts of things is uncertain at this time and the landscape re: same may change in the near future. Right now, it's an individual fair decision, maybe something each fair should discuss with legal counsel if uncertain.

Fairs

There are 107 fairs in the association; NorthEast and Mountain Springs have been dropped. Fair Dues were \$47,500, with \$6,000 still outstanding.

ATT offensive advertisement

OABA and NICA have emailed containing the offensive advertisement and where to register a complaint.

"The staged scene purports to show a carnival amusement ride, and suggests that our industry employs careless workers, operates decrepit rides, is unconcerned about ride safety and simply leaves town if someone is injured," said Greg Chiecko, president of the Outdoor Amusement Business Association. "Experts who have viewed the ride say it was intentionally doctored by the ad producers to make it appear to be unsafe."

The email was sent to all Fairs and directors, in case you had not received it from OABA or NICA.

Correspondence

State Fair Queens Thanking us for our support:

Madeline Kauffman – Oley Valley

Hunter Niebauer – Cambria County

Lydia Faust – Gratz

Kristin Johns – Reading

Secretary Redding Thanking us for the support of the PA Preferred Reception.

Hershey – Thank you from Randy, Jason, and Steve Simak (PSAV)

Dorothy Martin – Thank you for sponsoring the Apple Pie Contest at Farm show, 2nd place winner.

Maine Association of Agricultural Fairs – Thank you for the sponsorship of the Zone 1 conference.

Jim Davis

Juniata Valley Education Trust, thank you for honoring Jim's memory.

Petersburg-Bethel Presbyterian church, thank for gift in Jim's honor and memory.

Barb thanking us for the kindness and generosity in Jim's passing.

Penn State

Invitation to participate in the 2019 Ag Progress days August 13-15.

Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show

thank you for our sponsorship of the Mike Waugh Drive, a picture of Queen Madeline, and a 9th Place ribbon.

REPORT FROM THE PA SHOWMEN'S ASSOCIATION – Allen Bartlebaugh

Help support HB vistas. Foreign workers program. 66,000 cap. Bev indicated she would have something for the zone meetings.

REPORT FROM ASSOCIATES REPRESENTATIVE. – Galla Higinbotham

Thank you for support of Trade Show. Exhibitors are enthusiastic about the response. Friendly.

REPORT FROM THE PA DEPT. OF AG. – Tracy Barone

Tracy reported Youth Poster Inspiring Pennsylvania's Agriculture Story. Friends of the Fair are due 6/1/19. Apologized Fair guides have not been printed will be mailed. New electronic fund processing. New PA Preferred banners. Spotted lantern Fly certification.

REPORT FROM LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANTS. – Kerry Lange

See report for Milliron/Goodman.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BUDGET – Ron Miller

Meeting with Hershey June 11th, at 12pm budget committee will meet to prepare new budget.

BUDGET – John Blaney

Reception at Milliron/Goodman June 11th, details will be coming.

BAKING CONTESTS – Kevin Beiber

See separate report. Do not use the old PA Preferred banners

FAIR PERSON –

Application on web.

JUNIOR FAIR PERSON – C. Sherman Allen

New application similar format as others, Harry will put on web, also handed out at Zone meetings.

CONVENTION:

SPOUSE PROGRAMS – John Blaney

Working on for 2020, looking for ideas.

COMMUNICATIONS – Martha Ebersole

Thanked committee. More area this year. Looking for judges. Looking at sponsorship for communications breakfast.

ROOMS – Dr. Sally Nolt

Room block opened April 22th. Make early reservations. Book by Nov 1st.

SEMINARS – Kevin Bieber

Met at 10:00 with table topic committee. Keynote speaker Kenny Aronoff drummer from Bon Jovi, plays drums. \$11,000 includes air flight. Emergency spoker person. FFA, full slate.

TABLE TOPICS– Seth Kensinger

Expand options. Looking at time of starts and endings. Room space. Table topics at 8:00am. Will return those from 8:00am. Thursday start at 12:30.

MEMORIAL DISPLAY – John Berne

Growing, encourage at Zone meetings. Lot of people going into the display. Trend setter for memorial.

MSGR. SCHOLARSHIP – Dave Hallstrom

Application on web. June 30th, to zone chair July 31st.

QUEEN – John Berne

See separate report. Karen to reach out to Marla at IAFE regarding Agricultural Queens, coming to our Fairs and expecting recognition.

LUNCH

SPONSORSHIPS – Tony Frazier

Deanna Mae Advertising has rescinded her offer.

TOURISM PARTNERSHIP – Sally Nolt

No Meeting.

COUNCIL OF FARM ORGS – John Blaney

Sponsors Cornucopia, discussion of Hemp, Broad Band, Spotted lantern Fly, and budgets. Spotted lantern fly can get certified on line. 2 hour course.

PENN STATE AG COUNCIL – Jana Malot

Did not make the meeting.

PA FARM SHOW COMMITTEE – John Blaney

All three members had a conflict. Fantastic shows, assume sale of food. Reach out to Non-farm to understand where their food comes from. October no date given. Youth to participate. Letter regarding youth, Heidi char.

JUDGING SCHOOL – Bev Gruber

See separate report. List of 2019 judges to be sent to Harry.

OLD BUSINESS –

Deanna Mae Advertising LLC, see sponsorship committee report.

NEW BUSINESS --

Meeting with Hershey June 11th for budget and 2020 Convention. Budget committee will meet at noon, followed by lunch at 1, and at 2 meeting with Hershey.

Reception at Milliron/Goodman on June 11th details will be coming from Andy's office.

Tour of Big E and Fryeburg in October. If interested let Sally know.

AT&T offensive ad with regard to carnivals. Sherman moved to write a letter to AT&T with our response, 2nd by Jana, carried.

Drones Centre Hall had problem with a drone 3 years ago. No radio controlled vehicle, be careful in handling situations. FAA controller police cannot handle situations, same thing at gate.

October 17th, next board meeting.

Jim Reed moved to adjourn, 2nd by Debbie, carried adjournment at 1:40.

Respectfully submitted



Harry Reffner
Exec Secretary/Treasurer