

2023 FFA Planning Committee Minutes

December 12, 2023

Dr Dave Hopson, Alison Jones, Keith Shane, Ken Parker, Milton Natusch, Harold Mackin, Karen Hutchinson, Emily Doughty, John Bradley, Breana Butkievich, Elena Hovagimian, Laura Hietala, Suzanne Buck, Loren Andrews, Robert Eselby

Treasure Report: Kenneth Parker

Account: \$27,707.49

Harrison Griffin has not cashed his check.

Elena recommends that we have a meeting with ESE new director of Finance. Include Ken Parker and Dr Hopson, in the new year.

Harrison has not cashed his check. There are a couple of outstanding checks

Keith – Makes Motion to accept

Robbie – accepts

All vote in favor

FFA Livestock Judging

Traffic coming in and out. During this is a problem. Look at relocating this event.

Kudos to Bonnie Kegler for Assistant Superintendent

Reasons with pipe and drape

Potter recommended the move to close to the dairy office – look at what that looks like. Develop a potential judge's list. Line up officials and what does that look like. Pre-covid there was a group together and now it needs redeveloping. Need to look at new people and keep things moving forward.

FFA Dairy Handling

Looks like we need to make it more in align with the Dairy Handlers. There are some novice handlers and the animals were not always on their best behavior

FFA Scoring

Alison spoke it went very smoothly. Alison was nervous with the wife and the hardline was missing.
Needs tables and chairs upstairs for scoring. 4 chairs.

FFA Robbie

See report attached.

FFA National Karen Hutchison Report:

See report attached. Also there is the potential for 2 staff members coming in from the National Office.

Milton –

Breana – the interns and the volunteers do a great job. If it was not for them, it would be great. The majority of Superintendents will be returning. There will be a new Horse person, there will be an assistant superintendent of Farm Business. Some events have changed, the Assistants have moved to Superintendents. Pebbles LaCross will be moving up with Dustin Nelson. Dairy handlers and Dairy Evaluation might have some flux. Dairy Foods will need some new help. Poultry needs more help as well. If they need to put in for reimbursement etc. These people are very valuable. There needs to be more support given to these folks – a room, supplies, etc.

Natural Resources – need a superintendent to fill these shows

Agronomy – lets look at this for 2024.

Ag Issues event ran for the first time.

The Banquet

Top 9 individuals and the team placings. Confusion of the award, etc. It is a long day, and they are trying to be efficient and move things forward. Top 3 teams and top 3 individuals, are mentioned, but this is something that needs to be looked at.

Look at having an online form and they can print out their own certificate. Can make it as a token of appreciation, etc. ESE will look at that. How can we move things forward? Sheraton went well. Problem of finding what the participants will eat as the menu is a limited menu.

300lbs of potatoes donated from Maine Building. Look at what this is? Is this really something that we need to be doing. How do we streamline this?

Agriculture Mechanics

Full size pickup truck and having to navigate the Fairgrounds. Constant hassle and at Gate 1C. How can we get access to this.

Cabot cheese was available. This was nice to have some of this. Are there other vendors that came up that would like to do this.

Farm Credit East – always generous to sponsor this. It is very beneficial and very much appreciated.

ESE Report – Elena

FFA Interns:

Breana - Would like something to have written – some information that we are up-to-date information that we can look at having.

Robbie – Information from the Survey

Reviews were information was pretty positive.

More communication on what these things

Look at having better resource for new cdes. Remember being a customer focused on these things.

Milton – Ag Education and potential teachers moving forward and what the wave of the future is. It is new CDE moving forward.

Eastern States Exposition- Agriculture Director's Report:

Bark mulch – too hot

Plants and materials are not being covered.

Construct pedestals. Look at the first rule. See if the shelves or pedestals.

Theme recommendations.

2024 – Harvest time

2024 Destination Wedding

Need new themes.

Autumn dinner party

2025 – Cottage Garden

2026 -

Milton has questions regarding easy access. Falling over. Damage and protection how do we make sure that they are secure.

Farm-A-Rama – Chris's Report

Retiring Members:

Milton offered that we did \$100 gift card to a store for those retiring.

Motion

Online Waiver

Worked very well. Several Superintendents requests if they were all submitted. Some were and some were submitted. Waivers completed and got them in after the event.

Some folks needed

Waivers need to be completed. Everyone should be doing it.

Make A motion to move forward with Natural Agronomy, for 3 years to signify all that is in favor.

Robbie - make a motion

Suzanne seconds

Milton – get rid of potatoes – make a motion

Milton – Move to fewer awards – needs more discussion – advisor can sign it.

Put together a committee to make sure that we will have an order on this by Feb 15. The committee will need to decide by Feb 1. Laura will be on this committee. David, Suzanne, Laura, Milton,

Suzanne – Secretary - motion made by Dave

Elena – Treasurer to move to secretary. Harold – Second.

46 years Ken served as Treasurer.

December 12, 2024 9am. Zoom.

New Business: Kelsey O’Hare Motion to do the following:

- Stream lining at the Big E: Scoring process(Common score sheet), Scantron
- Waiver/ Participation Form: Waiting to if we can make this an online form from Elena.
- All materials digital so kids have better access finding the information.

Seconded by Suzanne Buck

Discussion: None

Motion Moved

New Business Continued:

- Increase Stipend for Stars: Starting a process for everyone to calculate hours.
 - o Will discuss increasing stipend at next meeting 2024
- Milton mentioned to send the superintendents an email asking how many hours they put in. To give an idea. This will give data on how long it takes Superintendent vs. Co/ Assistant.
 - o There is currently no data so if we can get information
 - o Elena mentioned doing Job Descriptions for each superintendent

Motion: For Eastern States to explore time line and Standard Operating Procedures for FFA CDE/LDE

Motion: Kelsey O’Hare

Seconded: Suzanne Buck

Discussion: None

Elena mentioned that we would ask the Superintendent for details in their role when we reach out to them about their CDE/LDE changes for 2023.

Elena mentioned office closed for Holiday Break December 23- January 3.

Elena made the group aware of needing a new system of how we get judges information and pay them. We paid many people for judging when they did not attend. In addition, did not pay those who actually did attend.

Motion to get \$100 Gift Cards for the Superintendents that are retiring including Kenneth Parker.

Motion passed.

Discussion: David mentioned in the past that when superintendents/ Committee Members retire we have done more than just \$100 gift cards. Milton mentioned that they have done Big E Jackets in the past. Milton said we should do something additional for Kenneth. Maybe a plaque or take him out for dinner. Suzanne mentioned the cutting board that National FFA was very nice.

Emily will look into a special gift for Kenneth Parker retirement.

Floral Design and Landscape Design:

David wanted to know if the themes for the next couple of years was posted.

Landscape Themes:

- 2023 - "Down on the Farm"
- 2024 - Harvest Time

Added:

2025 - Cottage Garden
2026 - Woodland Landscaping
2027 - Bird Lovers Landscape

Floral Display Themes:

- 2023 - Garden Party Fall
- 2024 - Destination Wedding

Added:

2025 - Autumn Dinner Party
2026 - A New Baby
2027 - Happy Anniversary

Election of Officer: New adjustments

Secretary - Suzanne Buck

Treasurer – Elena Hovagimian

All other officers to remain the same.

Motion to appoint new Secretary and Treasurer to the Big E FFA Planning Committee

Seconded: John

Motion: Passed

Meeting Date for 2024: December 10, 2024 at 9:30am

Motion to adjourn the meeting