

**Big E Planning Committee Meeting
November 12, 2004**

**Eastern States Exposition
Brooks Building**

Meeting called to order at 9:25 AM by Chair Jim Ogden

The following committee members were in attendance: Jim Ogden, Carol Ogden, Kimberly LaFleur, Kenneth Parker, Bill Annis, Norm Hammond, Janet Hammond, Milton Natusch, Richard Barker, Doug Butterfield, Jim Pomeroy, Cheryl Vest, Dave Lewis, Greg Breene, Dave Hopson, Keith Shane, Donna Woolam, Jerry Myers, Elena Hovagimian, Sarah Gove, Rick Martineault, Tom March, Dave Howell

Also in attendance was Kevin Keith, National FFA, and Melanie Sanborn, NH FFA Alumni

Secretary's Report read by Kimberly LaFleur

Motion by Rick Barker

Second by Doug Butterfield

Motion passed

Treasurer's Report read by Ken Parker

The report is attached to the minutes

Motion by Norm Hammond

Second by Cheryl Vest

Motion passed

Auditing Committee Report

An audit of the books has not been conducted at this time.

Motion by Carol Ogden to conduct an audit committee meeting with Ken Parker, Norm Hammond and Milton Natusch.

Second by Janet Hammond

Motion passed

Big E Comments

Donna Woolam thanked all Superintendents for their support and participation.

Jerry Myers also thanked committee members, as well as the staff of The Big E for making the event a success.

FFA Coordinator's Report

Dr Bill Annis read a report summarizing issues and concerns with the FFA program at The Big E. He also commended the staff at The Big E for their support of FFA

programs. He announced that 2004 is be his last year as Coordinator. Milton Natusch will resume duties as Coordinator effective at the end of this meeting.

Motion to approve report by Rick Martineault
Second by Keith Shane
Motion passed

Comments from CDE Superintendents

Bill read a synopsis of comments from CDE Superintendents. The report is attached to the minutes.

Milton Natusch commented about the paperwork for the Star's program. There is a discrepancy with the paperwork submitted from one state to the next. Consistency from one application to another is a problem for the judges. Discussion involving how to resolve the problem ensued. Milton will speak with some of the past judges to see what information they would like to have added to the current application. Keith Shane offered to work with Milton and Harrison to standardize the application form.

Comments from Kevin Keith, National FFA

Kevin brings greetings from National FFA and the new FFA CEO. Candace Murphy and Jessica Ells, from the national FFA CDE staff, were in attendance for the FFA days at The Big E. Kevin, along with a National Officer, will be returning to Massachusetts during the 2005 National FFA week in February to promote agricultural education.

Kevin offered the services of a new teleconference system that National FFA is implementing to use for future Planning Committee meetings.

Comments from CDE Superintendents

Safe Tractor CDE – the current facility is a problem in the event of inclement weather, such as what happened in 2004. The event needs other options for locations.

Several committee members made comments regarding event scheduling. Facility restrictions inhibit all events from being conducted on the fairgrounds. We discussed the purpose of the FFA events – is it for public relations, or to provide an opportunity for FFA members to prepare for National FFA CDE's?

Landscape Design Event – could FFA signs be provided for each exhibit with the FFA emblem that would be uniform for all participants? Milton will look into purchasing signs for the event that can be reused each year.

Ag Mechanics – the event was short on chairs again this year. Donna addressed the problem and it will be rectified for next year. A written report is attached to the minutes.

Creed Speaking – Janet informed the committee of a policy clarification from National FFA regarding introductions made by participants. Janet will include that clarification with the revised rules for 2005

Extemporaneous Public Speaking – Dave suggested use of a comment sheet for participants be added to the event. A copy of the proposed sheet was passed around for committee members to view.

Livestock Evaluation – the superintendent proposed adding a second oral reasons class to the event

Old Business

Demonstration CDE – 2005 will be the third year of a three-year trial for this event. There were only three participants from two states this year. Unless participation increases, the event is in jeopardy of being cancelled.

Service Awards – the following individuals were recommended to receive the awards this year.

Jerry Fuller, VT, has served as judge for the Stars Program, as well as the public speaking events

David Howell, NH, has been with the Planning Committee for over 20 years. He will be retiring and moving out of the area.

Bill Annis, NH, is retiring from service to the planning committee as well.

New Business

Horse CDE – request has been to add showmanship to the event

Motion made by Keith Shane to table this item until the 2005 Planning Committee Meeting

Second by Norm Hammond

Motion passed

Computerized Scoring

Motion by Bill Annis to score CDE's by computerized scorecard, where appropriate, for 2005 events

Second by Cheryl Vest

Discussion –

Tom March raised a question as to the reason for moving to computerized scoring. Bill Annis explained it would help facilitate scoring the events in a timely manner. Jim Ogden distributed an example of a print out obtained from computerized scoring and explaining the requirements for using the “bubble sheets”. This example is filed with the minutes.

Motion passed unanimously

Increase FFA participation from new states to the Eastern Region –
As previously discussed, the four newly added states to the Eastern Region have been contacted regarding their participation in future Big E events.

Small Animal CDE –

Bill introduced Melanie Sanborn, who discussed adding a Small Animal CDE to the FFA events at The Big E.

Motion by Rick Martineault to form a Small Animal Care committee to look into the possibility of beginning a small animal CDE, and that Melanie Sanborn is chair of this committee.

Second by Sarah Gove

Milton Natusch moved to amend to motion that the Small Animal Care committee be formed and they report back to the planning committee by February 15, 2005 to determine feasibility of adding the event as a demonstration event in 2005.

Second by Norm Hammond

Discussion – Rick Barker – Will this event be a demonstration in 2005?

Answer, yes.

Amendment to the motion passed

Main Motion as amended passed

Motion to nominate Wayne McCary to receive Honorary American Degree

Motion by Rick Martineault

Second by Cheryl Vest

Motion passed

Motion by Rick Barker to invite National FFA COO to attend The 2005 Big E

Second by Bill Annis

Motion passed

Motion by Doug Butterfield to purchase Service Award jackets.

Second by Carol Ogden

Motion passed

Nominating Committee Report –

Bill Annis nominated Dave Hobson, President, Kim LaFleur, Secretary, Ken Parker, Treasurer

Jim Pomeroy nominated Jim Pomeroy for Vice President

Motion to close nomination made by Doug Butterfield

Seconded by Norm Hammond

Motion passed

A request from Dick Strangeway was read by Bill Annis to have all superintendents provide him with the number of State Officers needed for each event.

The 2005 Big E Planning Committee Meeting will take place November 10, 2005.

Motion to adjourn by Doug Butterfield
Second by Carol Ogden

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly LaFleur
Big E Planning Committee Secretary