

# 2014 FFA Planning Committee Meeting

November 4, 2014

Attendees: Milton Nautush, Pat Natush, Dustyn Nelson, Elena Hovagimian, Norm Hammond, Janet Hammond, Karen Hutchison, Jim Pomeroy, Andrew Zadora, Dave Hobson, Dr Ken Parker, Mr Harrison Griffin, and Harold Mackin

Meeting called to order – 9:34am

Secretary's Report – skipped

**Treasurer's Report** – Dr Parker – reported. Discussion regarding the Zoetis Vet Sci award. Half of the funds are remaining at \$300. Motion Approved. Norm Hammond Move Pat Second.

Communications if any

## Reports –

**Donna Woolam** – The Big E – Thank you on FFA CDE timeline is continuing for Superintendents. Bus passes it is important that they get in prior to the date of your arrival. Agriscience Fair was a nice addition. ESE is planning to continue its support. See attached report for complete.

**National FFA Report** – Karen Hutchison – Attended her first Big E as a National Officer. Was glad to Judge and would be willing to judge any of the necessary events. Will continue to spread the word in regards to National and the ESE's programming.

**Big E Coordinators Report** – Milton Natush – Large change over in personnel. It is a challenge to find out who is in charge of the state. Kentucky was represented for the first time ever. State Officers – should be used efficiently. Superintendents need to know that State officers are to be utilized and put to good use.

Judges – we work hard to get the superintendents to submit them so we can get them paid.

FFA work Day – Only one chapter participates. We need more participation.

Superintendents Dinner the Italian Tent is too loud. Suggest moving back to the Tavern. Donna mentioned that there are several other venues that might work for this event.

Dr Parker and Harrison met with Circus folk ahead of time; this seemed to make the event go very smoothly.

Events seem to be comparable in terms of participation.

Expense is becoming an increasing factor in their participation.

## **CDE Superintendents Report**

**Floriculture** Combine with Nursery Landscape in the Barns to use extra space

Job Interview – Fine per Dave Hobson

Creed - Janet Hammond – Liked the Sheraton – missed to the audience

Safe Tractor – Jim and Andrew – Believed the contest went well. Participants were well prepared. Ended at 1pm. Supplies and items were prepared and provided by Jim and Andrew's school. Thank you to the ESE Maintenance Dept and Stanton Equipment.

Agriscience – Harold Makin – 18 participants and 11 judges. Corny and all the Farm-A-Rama staff are to be commended. All the hustle and bustle did not seem to be a bother to the participants.

Stars Program Report - Delivered by Harold Makin – Event went really well. One participant arrived late due to flight problems. Numbers were up. Dr Parker stated the program is on target in terms of money from Farm Credit. Donna mentioned that Jim Putnam enjoys being a sponsor of the event. Harrison changed the pageant and awards program, by making it part of the circus. It was the best pageant we have had in a number of years.

Awards Banquet – Officers need to realize that they will not be able to participate in the parade. Need to find an assistant for Norm as he will be retiring in 2015.

Landscape and Floral Design – Keep picking themes three years out. It was noted that they would like to go back to 6 teams. Donna will have a decision by January 1.

Floral Design – problem is getting all the addresses for all the participants. Need to make sure that we have completed entry forms. They were down in floral entries this year. Several came in at the last minute. Donna proposed implementing a policy for picking up floral designs.

**Judging Card** - we currently do not pay for this service. In the future we may need to pay for this. It was verified that it is beneficial. It is meeting Milton's needs, the Ag Office's needs along with State Coordinator's and Superintendents. We would like to extend a thank you to Russell and the Crew at Judgingcard.com. We need to review the waiver form to allow for easier match up on the judgingcard.com system.

## **Old Business**

**Agriscience Fair** – Would like to have signs that state judging in progress. Some problem with the public, but that is part of being at the Fair.

**Clarifying Dairy Handlers Results** – This is an individual event. Allowed to have 4 participants per state the top individual will count towards sweepstakes.

## New Business

**Replacement of CDE Superintendents** – Several spots need to be filled. Ag Mechanics is in need of another individual. Several events need assistants. The concern is that if one person cannot attend and who will assume the role if someone is unable to attend. Milton will get information in regards to contact information. Norm is looking for a replacement. Milton will put together an email that will go across states to find help.

**Adding Food Science CDE – pilot** - Someone is willing to oversee this event. This would follow the National FFA rules. This explores into Sanitation and Creating a product, packaging, etc. Producing food from start to finish. Would like to have it on Saturday. Donna and Elena will evaluate the space, and needs requirements and PJ Adams and put it through as a pilot for 2015. Motion of ESE to looking at Pilot for Food Science – Pat Natush. Norm Hammond Second. Passed unanimously.

**Equipment expenditure for Forestry ID Tools** – Dustyn made a motion of up to \$1000 for approval by list of Milton. Second by Pat Natusch. Norm Hammond Moved to table the motion upon further investigation by Milton.

**Selection of Theme for 2017 (Landscape and Floral Design)** Dustyn posed the idea of deer resistant for landscape and Art Deco for Floral Design. Dustyn Nelson Moved to have Fall Harvest Time with a modern interpretation for Floral Display. Pat Natush seconded. Dustyn moved for deer resistant. Norm Hammond Second. Both unanimously voted.

**Evaluate the purpose of the FFA Demonstration Booth** – needs to reflect the current programming of FFA Demonstration booth. Several ideas were posed. It was discussed to bring in FFA Alumni along with Current Students. Harrison moved to have a committee to redesign the demonstration process. Second by Andrew. Dustyn Nelson, Harrison Griffin, Pat Natusch, Corny Jacquier, Elena Hovagimian and Harold Mackin comprise the committee.

**Establishing Criteria for Food @ Tractor Contest** – This is a thank you luncheon. Lunch is at 1:30. ESE is willing to provide a box lunch for the 10 – 15 judges.

**Reviewing Comments for Superintendents** - Milton would be working on in January.

**Election of Officers for 2014-15** – Norm motioned to retain. Janet second. Unanimously passed

**Next Meeting Date** – November 10, 2015. Time TBD.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:05 AM.

Call to Order -- David Hopson, Chairman

Secretary's Report -- Kim LeFleur

Treasurer's Report -- Ken Parker

Communications if any

### **Reports**

- Donna Woolam -- BIG E
- National FFA Report -- Karen Hutchison
- BIG E Coordinators Report -- Milton Natusch
- CDE Superintendents Reports
- Stars Program Report -- Mr. Griffin
- Report on using Judging [card.com](http://card.com) for registrations

### **Old Business**

Agriscience Fair Competition at the BIG E -- 1<sup>st</sup> year review for the agriscience competition and future direction

Clarifying Dairy Showing results for use with Sweepstakes

### **New Business**

Replacement of CDE Superintendents and Assistants

Adding Food Science CDE as pilot event

Equipment expenditure for forestry ID tools

Election of Officers for 2014-15

Next meeting date -- XXX

Adjourn for lunch

## Suggested Landscape Themes (by Judges and Schools)

Roof Top Gardens	Native Plants - 2015
Oriental	Spring Has Sprung
Garden Party	Nature's Bounty
Zen Garden	Birds and Bees - 2014
Water Garden	Woodland Garden
Secret Garden	Holidays
Landscape Design of 1916 - 2016	

## Suggested Floral Themes

Throughout the Seasons (transitional season design -- fall/winter, winter, spring)

Wedding – a bouquet, boutonniere, and female wearable flower (corsage or wristlet)

Garden Party - 2014

Down on the Farm

Good Old Summer Time

Welcome to Spring

Yea, Rah, Rah, Team

Celebrate 100 years of Big E - 2016

Fall Harvest Time

Down on the Farm (w/ farm utensils, etc.)

Hobbies (Sewing, Fishing, Reading, Sports, Gardening, Music)

Holidays

Eco Friendly - 2015

Superintendents Reports 2014 BIG E FFA

Floriculture - 10 Team

Superintendent: Chas Mavrelion

Assistant superintendents: Dustyn Nelson and Lori Trovato

No special comments

Farm Business Management - 7 Team

Co Superintendent: Doug Robertson

Co superintendent: John Bradley

No special comments

Poultry - 6 Team

Superintendent: Bob Laufter

Assistant Superintendent: Neil Fellenbaum

No special comments

Agronomy - 3 Team

Superintendent: Neil Fellenbaum

Will continue if needed next year if regular superintendent cannot be there.

Job Interview - 6

Co Superintendents: Joanne Blocker & Jeanne Garriepy

No special comments

Dairy Showing - 25

Superintendent: Sheri Boardman

Clarify Sweepstakes eligibility

Extemporaneous Speaking - 9

Co-Superintendents: PJ Adams & Alyssa Wittle

Willing to be Superintendent for Food science CDE is held on Saturday.

Natural Resources CDE - 8 Team

Superintendents: Renee & Ronald Frederick

No special comments

Creed - 3

Superintendent: Janet Hammond

Assistant: Superintendent: Pat Natusch

Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent will switch for next year.

Livestock Judging - 8 team

Superintendent: Keith Shane

Assistant Superintendent: Laura Marek

No special comments

Dairy Judging - 8 team

Superintendent: Brenda Wildes

Asst Superintendent: Ericka Petersson

Brittany Pestey to replace Erika Peterrson as Asst superintendent

No special comments

Safe Tractor Operation - 8

Superintendent: James Pomeroy

Assistant Superintendent: Andrew Zadora

\$150 food budget not anticipated this year from a caterer in Connecticut

Milk Quality and Products - 9 team

Superintendent: Dave Snyder

Co superintendent: Bob Sieving

No special comments

Prepared speaking - 6

Superintendent: Kim LeFleur

No special comments

Forestry - 7 team

So superintendents: Rick Martineau & George Lyman & James Anspach

Need additional budget for purchasing tree measurement stick - Approx \$325.00

Additional money for other items

Ag Mechanics - 6 team

Superintendent: Tom March

Co Superintendent: Mark Burdick & Doug Hammond

Tom March is retiring. No replacement as yet.

Star Pageant

Went Very well despite the rain. No report received from Mr. Griffin on Star activities.

No other CDE Superintendent reports received.

Parli pro - 8 team

Horse judging - 7 team

Vet Tech - 8 team

Ag marketing - 3 team


BIG E FFA Coordinators Report  
November 4, 2014

- The FFA member participation this year was similar to last year and need to continue work in getting other states not represented at least participate in the Stars Program. I talked with several states and with limited staff and they indicated it is difficult to work with schools in getting them to participate. In several cases cost was a factor by local school districts.
- Interns: Six interns worked at the BIG E this year, they came from Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware. Each did an outstanding job in executing their duties as needed. Kaylyn Morrill from Connecticut was instrumental in getting the interns from the airport to BIG E and hotel as well as the National FFA Officer, Jason Wertzler. The National Officer spoke at the Rotary Club luncheon at the Basketball Hall of Fame and then at the Green Pastures dinner.
- Online registrations: We continue to use Judgingcard.com for registration and slowly issues are being resolved.
- The landscape exhibits continue to be a highlight of the Farm-A-Rama building. We had five entries this year.
- The floral design competition went very well and the most effective way to receive entries needs to be addressed for this year.
- There was maximum attendance at the Sheraton this year (700) which was great, but there is no room for additional students and advisors.
- Positive comments were received from the CDE Superintendents at the conclusion of their events and it appears.
- Doug Cottrill was hired again to run the computerized scoring process. Overall, the results were available for the banquet and things worked out just fine.
- State FFA Officer Assignments: A much better job was done this year in scheduling officers at CDE events.
- Several opportunities exist for assistant superintendents.
- We had the following states participating in the BIG E FFA events: Maine, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, Kentucky, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio. *CONNECTICUT*
- FFA Workday the Saturday before has only had one chapter participate in the past and additional chapters are encouraged to assist. The chapter was Northwestern Regional FFA, Winsted CT.
- The Superintendents dinner was well represented by CDE staff and guests but the noise level is very high and very difficult to talk with the Superintendents. Recommend going back to Storowton Inn.



- The Creed CDE moved to the Sheraton this year and seemed to work out there very well.
- Elena and Donna are to be commended, as well as others who provided assistance to the FFA at the BIG E. Their patience, dedication and hard work helped make FFA days a success.
- The banquet went very well this past year with the help of Norm and Janet Hammond, who coordinated this event.
- We need to review the comments from the Superintendents several months before the BIG E to make sure we are accommodating their needs.
- A better method of identifying judges for the various events needs to be established to ensure accuracy of judges who did participate as well the payment process.
- Thank you note cards were provided to the interns and Star applicants to thank the many sponsors of events. This really worked well and should be expanded to other CDE areas.
- Laminate names tags were provided with lanyards to all CDE Superintendents, Asst Superintendents, state FFA Officer assistants and judges so they could be easily identified by students, spectators and others.
- Agriscience displays seemed to be a crowd pleaser and many general public people were observed looking at the displays and talking with the students. I did have a comment from another state FFA coordinator that when the judging is talking place spectators were getting in the way (not knowing the judges were asking questions and scoring the exhibit). This intimated a number of students.
- Kaylyn Morrill served as assistant to the BIG E FFA Coordinator and did a fantastic job!

Respectfully submitted,

  
Milt Natusch  
BIG E FFA Coordinator

Comments from the Director of Agriculture and Education  
For FFA Planning Committee, November 2014

On behalf of the Exposition and the staff of the department I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all the folks involved with the 2014 FFA Activities. Your dedication of time and other resources is greatly valued by ESE.

As in every year the Exposition was very pleased to be able to host the young people chosen as interns. In 2014 we again offered several internships and we are pleased to be able to accommodate these young people as they are an intricate part of staging this program. As in previous years they represented FFA at the pre-opening ESE Media party. The National officer this year attended Springfield Rotary and The Green Pastures dinner on Friday.

This year, on December 1<sup>st</sup>, we will remove from the website the 2014 CDE information. Changes from the Supt. should be made in Dec., so that by Jan 1, 2015, we may begin posting the 2015 CDE information. Elena will notify you 1 week before we remove your CDE so that you will have time to get updates done. Changes that come out of National can be made on the web as we are notified by the Supt. I cannot emphasize the need to get this information to us in a timely manner. It is our hope that Superintendents will respect this time frame and Elena's other commitment needs and get this information to her in the timeline stated. This was accomplished with great success last winter and we would like to continue it.

Cindi feels that the electronic van and bus passes are working well, but it is difficult to be efficient with people that are tardy with request. PLEASE work at getting these in on time.

The Exposition was attended by over 1.498 million people this year. It is our intention to continue to support the current FFA events in 2015.

Respectively submitted:

Donna G. Woolam

Director of Agriculture and Education

**BIG "E" FFA PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

**NOVEMBER 4, 2014**

**ACCOUNT BALANCE**

**BALANCE** November 5, 2013 33,453.74

**GENERAL ACCOUNT**

<b>RECEIPTS</b> Participation Dues (5 States)	670.00	
FFA Zoetis-Vet Sci Award	750.00	
Agri-Mark Donation	500.00	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<u>1,920.00</u>	35,373.74

<b>EXPENSES</b> 2014 CDE EXPENSES	904.07	
FFA Supplies	556.44	
Stop Watches	231.77	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u>1,692.28</u>	33,681.46

**FARM CREDIT ACCOUNT**

**BALANCE**

<b>BALANCE</b> NOVEMBER 5, 2013		10,465.67	
<b>RECEIPTS</b> FARM CREDIT SYSTEM	10,000.00		
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<u>10,000.00</u>	20,465.67	43,681.46
<b>EXPENSES</b> STARS TRAVEL (22 Individuals)	4,400.00		
STARS WINNERS (4 Individuals)	1,600.00		
B. Harrison Griffin 2014 Stars	17.25		
Discount Trophy	600.00		
STARS LUNCHEON	2,100.58		
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u>8,717.83</u>	<u>11,747.84</u>	<u>34,963.63</u>

**BANK STATEMENT BALANCE SEPTEMBER 30, 2014** 40,406.72

Checks outstanding November 4, 2014 5,443.09

Checkbook Balance November 4, 2014 34,963.63

Respectfully Submitted;

*Kenneth A. Parde, Treasurer*