

President:

SAMUEL J. ZAFFUTO
355 N. Park St.
Sykesville, PA 15865
(814) 894-5723

Vice President:

MARTHA EBERSOLE
640 Dellville Rd.
Duncannon, PA 17020
(717) 834-4435

Exec. Secretary/Treasurer:

HARRY REFFNER
128 Cumberland Road
Bedford, PA 15522
(866) 814-6985
fax (866) 231-4829

Immediate Past President:

DR. SALLY K. NOLT
25 Iris Circle
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
(717) 367-7256

Executive Committee:

C. SHERMAN ALLEN
Conneaut Lake, PA 16316
(814) 671-9947

JOHN BERNE
Crosby, PA 16724
(814) 887-5396

KEVIN D. BIEBER
Oley, PA 19547
(610) 987-6529

JOHN D. BLANEY, JR.
Perryopolis, PA 15473
(724) 677-2228

DAVID W. COWDEN
Hickory, PA 15340
(724) 356-2577

ROGER DIRLAM
Honesdale, PA 18431
(570) 253-3540

KAREN DOBSON
Pottstown, PA 19465
(610) 469-0263

TONY R. FRAZIER
Bloomsburg, PA 17815
(570) 784-9158

BEVERLY GRUBER
New Tripoli, PA 18066
(610) 767-5026

BEN HAAGEN
Howard, PA 16841
(814) 383-4428

SUSAN HAHN
Pen Argyl, PA 18072
(610) 863-6816

JUDY KMETZ
Shavertown, PA 18708
(570) 675-2952

JODY E. LAMBERT
Dushore, PA 18614
(570) 924-3843

CRAIG LASH
West Newton, PA 15089
(724) 872-8967

JANA L. MALOT
Harrisonville, PA 17228
(717) 571-8637

SHIRLEY MCINTIRE
Jackson Center, PA 16133
(724) 699-0797

JEANNE MILLER
Girard, PA 16417
(814) 774-5703

JIM REED
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
(724) 967-6627

DR. DAVID REESE, DVM
Pine City, NY 14871
(607) 733-3154

DEBBIE STEPHENSON
Prosperity, PA 15329
(724) 627-4752

GLENN STOLTZFUS
Manheim, PA 17545
(717) 405-0698

Members At Large:

MILLIRON & GOODMAN, Lobbyist
Harrisburg, PA 17101
(717) 232-5322

TRACY BARONE
PA Dept. of Agriculture, Fair Fund
Harrisburg, PA 17110
(717) 772-3094

GALLA HIGINBOTHAM, Associates Rep.
Alexandria, PA 16611
(814) 669-4443



PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY FAIRS

MINUTES**FALL MEETING**

OCTOBER 21, 2021 – 11 AM

CENTRE COUNTY GRANGE

Sam Zaffuto called the meeting to order. George Witherite led the Pledge of Allegiance and Karen Dobson offered prayer.

Roll Call - present were C Sherman Allen, John Berne, John Blaney Jr., Roger Dirlam, Karen Dobson, Martha Ebersole, Tony Frazier, Beverly Gruber, Ben Haagen, Susan Hahn, Judy Kmetz, Jana Malot, Shirley McIntire, Jeanne Miller, Sally Nolt, Jim Reed, David Reese, Harry Reffner, Glenn Stoltzfus, and Samuel Zaffuto. Honorary members Byron Glessner, David Hallstrom Bruce Koppenhaver, John McMullen, George Witherite. Excused Kevin Bieber, David Cowden, Jody Lambert, Craig Lash, and Debbie Stephenson. Members at Large – Tracy Barone, Laura England, Kerry Lange. Guest from PSSA Allen Bartlebaugh, Jimmy Snyder.

MINUTES OF FALL AND CONVENTION MEETINGS – Harry Reffner
I had asked that minutes from our Spring Meeting be printed down. Roger Dirlam motioned to suspend the reading of the minutes and approve, 2nd by Beverly Gruber, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Harry Reffner

Comparing the Balance Sheet to last year this time:

1. We are \$16,000 under the balance sheet from our prior fiscal year. With the lack of Convention transfers into the General fund I closed a CD that came due with a low interest rate and placed into the Savings. Early in the year I transferred \$25,000 from savings into the General account. An increase from PA Preferred and associate dues over budget account for lesser amount to transfer. Both our income (28,000) and expenses (36,000) were under budget for the year.
2. Penn Ag has been invoiced for the Angel Food Contest, and anticipation of \$5,000 should be coming shortly.
3. Scholarship fund continues to be healthy, with the lack of Spouse funds from convention. Contributions from individuals and Fairs amounted to \$2,400.
4. Due to COVID a budget for 2021 was not established. Monies in the Convention account was kept to a minimum for the year. Late in September income for the 2022 convention started in. From Queen Registration, banquets, and trade show booths.

Roger Dirlam motioned to accept the report, John Blaney 2nd, motion carried.

Association Update – Harry Reffner

Date & other changes for the 2022 Directory, have been mailed out. With a request return to me by December 1st

This is to insure the Fair's listing in 2022 Directory.

Associate Dues have been mailed, in 2020 we had 200 associates, last year 142, and to date we have 146.

2022 Convention update

You will be hearing more about the Convention later. A few points: It was decided at the Budget Meeting in June, due to the last several years of drawing on our funds, we will increase registration to \$40. PSACF banquet price has increased, in years passed the Association was absorbing some of the cost.

The Memorial service will be longer this year as we are remembering those that have passed in 2020 and 2021

Report from the PA Showmen's Association – Jimmy Snyder/Allen Bartlebaugh

Good year despite the help situation. Court case in Pennsylvania trying to brand PSSA as solicitors, going to be tough. Solicitation of Fairs will put shows out of business. Sally asked about room reservations from PSSA for the Convention. Allen was going to check on.

Report from the Pa Dept of Ag – Tracy, Laura

Fair Poster Contest

- Entries are due to Tracy by **November 1st**.
- You can give your entries to Harry this evening and he will pass them along to her.

Fair Reimbursements

- Fair Reimbursements are due on **November 15th**.
- Fairs may email applications directly to Tracy or send paper copies.
- If your fair is emailing its application, please be sure to send a .PDF of the Fair Premium Book or a link to the online version if the book was online this year.
- Please reach out to Tracy in advance if you have any issues meeting the deadline.
- Fairs that cancelled their events this year will receive what they did in 2019/2020 in reimbursement funds. There were 5 fairs that cancelled their events due to COVID-19.

2021-2022 Capital Improvement Grant Applications

- The applications were recommended for approval by the Fair Advisory Committee in September; however, the final word regarding this year's funding scenario won't be out until late December or early January.
- At this time, it looks like we **MAY** have enough funding to cover the 1, 2 and 3 priority projects and will do so if funding allows.
- Tracy will reach out to all applicants to discuss their projects in December.

Prior Year Capital Improvement Grant Projects and Payments

- Many fairs have been granted no-cost extensions of time to complete their projects.
- Tracy will reach out to individual fairs to check on their project's status.

- We have many FY 2019 projects and nearly half of the FY 2020 projects still outstanding.
- The department understands that supply chain slow-downs and worker shortages have caused a variety of project delays and is working with the fairs to accommodate these issues.

Report from Legislative Consultant – Kerry Lange

See separate Report

Committee Reports

Budget

Sally Nolt presented the Budget from the committee, recommending it, 2nd by Roger and carried.

Zone Affairs – Sam Zaffuto

Zone 4 has requested a Webnair meeting. Article X of our bylaws require a majority of the executive committee to approve. Discussion followed, Roger motion to have the Webnair, 2nd by Sally.

Discussion followed regarding low attendance at our Zone meetings. We need to give a reason to come to the meetings. Revamp them. Shirley McIntire has a round table in her zone successful. Incorporate business meeting with discussion. Sam appointed a committee to review: Karen Dobson, Martha Ebersole, Kevin Bieber, and Shirley McIntire.

By-Laws – Roger Dirlam

Review of Article X with regards to in person or Webnair meetings.

Auditing – Kevin Bieber, notes read by Karen Dobson

Meeting at Convention after Opening ceremony in the Ball Room.

Animal Health – Dr. David Reese

Swine and rabbit disease concerns.

Special Baking – Karen Dobson

Some reminders on how to close out your fair's Special Baking contests for 2021.

☑ All baking contests must be held by Oct 31 as part of the COVID contingency plan.

☑ Fill out your Contest Summary forms and submit them to Kevin and I by November 15.

Fairs can mail, email or complete the summary form online. The forms and online link are available on the pafairs.org website under the Members menu. Fairs that submit their reports will receive premium reimbursement for the Angel Food Cake and the PA Preferred Junior Baking contests only.

☑ Winners who want to advance to the state finals must bring the official signed Certification Entry Form, a copy of the winning recipe and the baked entry with them to Farm Show. **TIP:** plan ahead...fill out these Certification Forms and get them to your 2021 special baking contest winners. If the first-place winner is unable to attend the state finals, fairs have the option to certify the next available winner. **TIP:** attach a copy of their winning recipe to their Certification (*story about the kitchen cabinet*).

☑ Local winners should NOT register directly with the PA Farm Show to compete in the Farm Show special baking finals. The Certification Entry Form signed by their fair is their "ticket" to enter. Instructions are listed on the Certification Entry Form.

☑ Kevin and I will be hosting our annual Special Baking Contest seminar on Friday

afternoon at Convention in January. This is a great opportunity to get the latest contest updates, forms, and share information among other fairs. It's also a great resource for any new Baking Contest coordinators.

Fair Person – Bruce Koppenhaver

Only have 1 nomination, encourage at the zone meetings.

Jr. Fair Person – C. Sherman Allen

Will submit the 4 nominates to the committee for their review. Disappointed in response from Fairs.

Spouse Program – John Blaney

A "Ticket Auction" in the Great Hallway and prizes to be awarded on Saturday at 12:30PM in the Chocolate Ballroom.

On Thursday, a Basket and Bag Bingo will be held with Vera Bradley bags and Longaberger Baskets as the prizes.

Friday we will have hands on activity Wine bottle decorating.

On Saturday morning the program is to be announced.

Communications – Martha Ebersole

Only 5 Fairs have sent in registration. November 1st deadline.

Rooms – Sally Nolt

Book your rooms. Block is not full.

Seminars/Table Topics – Kevin Bieber/ read by Karen Dobson

Table Topics – All 12 topics have been set and were listed in Fairtalk. The 12 topics will be run twice throughout convention. I will be reaching out to the committee in the near future to seek the leaders of these table topics.

The Table Topics will be discussion only and no power points, presentations etc. Just a very simple round table discussion and learn from each other.

Seminars - All set, just waiting on one presenter to provide a description of the seminar for the convention booklet. The Animal Health seminar was to be conducted by Dr. Elizabeth Santini & Dr. Tony LaBarbera. I was recently informed they retired as of September 30th. I am working on getting a replacement presenter.

Youth Day - Seminars are set and will be presented by the State FFA Officers. Family Feud will be played by the Youth Day participants this year on Saturday afternoon. Need Youth from Fairs to sign up for Saturday event !!!!!!!

Showcase – Sam Zaffuto

October 15 was deadline have received 22 applications. ½ of what we normally receive. Will review next month.

Memorial Display – John Berne

Remind all fairs to bring picture, will be for 2 years.

Msgr. Mignot Scholarship – Sally Nolt

16 applicants. 4 from zone 3 and 2 from zone 4.

Queen Program – Karen Dobson

ELECTIONS need to be held at Fall Zone Meetings - **Zones 1 and 3** to appoint member to the 2022 PA Fa Queen Board of Directors.

Events/Publicity:

2021 PA Fair Queen Addison Neff (Elizabethtown Fair, Z 4) traveled to 25 fairs and logged 5,665 miles

2021 Alternate PA Fair Queen Abigail Knapp (Somerset County Fair, Zo 3) traveled to 4 official fair visits and logged 740 miles **Total Mileage: 6,405**

State Contest:

- 59 Intent Forms were received.
- Applications are posted on the PSACF website under the “Convention” menu.
- **Reminder: This year the application process is online only; no longer accepting paper applications.**
- A Zoom webinar was held in September to guide coordinators and contestants on how to complete the online process
- We are continuing to plan for an in-person state contest at Hershey in January. The contest will go back to it's regular schedule:
 - Orientation on Thursday afternoon
 - Stage Introductions at the Thursday night banquet (new this year! Contestants wear business attire – no gowns for Thursday night)
 - Interviews on Friday
 - Speeches on Saturday
 - Coronation on Saturday evening

Tourism Partnership – Sally Nolt

Meeting Today.

Penn State Ag Council – Jana Malot

Meeting last week. Alternative energy. Green house gases.

PA Farm Show Committee –Kevin Bieber

Conference Call:

Farm Show just recently finished the All American Dairy Show and Keystone International Livestock Exhibition. Both shows went well with lots of people.

The Farm Show is excited to be hosting the 2022 Farm Show in person and they have lots of plans in place. It will also be a chance for the public to see all the improvements to the building and property.

Farm Show Staffing - They are hiring !!!!! Need many positions including but not limited to Security, Clerks and a Building Services Supervisor. Some positions are permanent and some temporary. Contact Sharon at the Farm Show if interested. They are also looking for agricultural organizations to help as well.

Facility - They are very proud of their facility improvements with just a few finishing touches to go yet.

Family Living – Some new re-designed display boards and shelving will be introduced as well as aisles will be 15 foot wide to allow less congestion of people.

Cameron Street Lobby – Will be opened up more by not having exhibitors in that lobby, this should allow for a better flow of people in that area.

Entering Exhibits - People are strongly encouraged to enter on line for their Farm Show Exhibits

Theme - "Harvesting More"

Judging School/Superintendents – Jana Malot

As I did fair visitation I asked for ideas. The schools appear in FairTalk. Increased the fee to attend to \$15.

Old Business

Karen – last meeting we had asked the Association for an additional \$800 for the Queen Program. Update \$400 was paid to the photographer. The other \$400 was a slush fund for mailings to the contestants. \$232.50 has been spent, most likely the remaining balance will be returned to the Association. Karen gave Harry a check for \$115 today.

YPI – Young Professional Initiative

Maria Zaffuto is planning a social event and education. Will get something in FairTalk.

New Business

2022 Fair Theme- "Pa Fairs: Working together to keep the tradition alive."

Zone Fair Person – Discussion if the PSACF Directors should selected the person.

PA Farm Show – request from Friends of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Foundation to participate in the Mike Waugh Draft Horse driving event. We have been doing it for a number of years. Sally motion to participate, 2nd by Judy, carried.

Request to start a Facebook for PSACF, group restricted. Martha indicated that it was too much to ask Harry to monitor. Will review.

Jim Reed increase mileage rate. Discussion of .40 per mile.

Martha Ebersole motioned to adjourn, 2nd by Roger Dirlam , carried. Adjournment at 2.05.

Respectfully submitted



Harry Reffner
Exec Secretary/Treasurer