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PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY FAIRS

MINUTES**PRE-CONVENTION MEETING**

JANUARY 19 2022-4:45PM

HERSHEY, PA

President Sam Zaffuto called the meeting to order. Invocation was offered by Karen Dobson the Pledge of Allegiance lead by Kevin Bieber. Roll Call - present were C. Sherman Allen, Kevin Bieber, John Blaney, David Cowden, Karen Dobson, Martha Ebersole, Tony Frazier, Beverly Gruber, Ben Haagen, Susan Hahn, Craig Lash, Jana Malot, Shirley McIntire, Jeanne Miller, Sally Nolt, Jim Reed, Dr. David Reese, Harry Reffner, and Samuel Zaffuto. Also in attendance – Gala Higinbotham, Andy Goodman, Kelly Lange, Ron Miller, Bruce Koppenhaver, John McMullen, David Hallstrom, Tom Murray, George Witherite. Count for Sunday Breakfast (35). From Hershey Cyndy Cosner. From the Department of Ag Tracy Barone.

Cyndy welcomed us back and then thanked us for coming really appreciate.

MILLIRON & GOODMAN – Andy -- Great to see friendly faces, long struggle. Political ads have started. Hot and heavy Senate also new Governor. 16 candidates for Governor, 1 Democrat running. Politicians like to come to Fairs and be in front of people. Meet the candidate and show them the courtesy of the Fair. House/Senate redistricting occurring Republicans not happy with it Democrats are ok. Kerry – Worked with Tracy for a Fair opening. Fair line budget same as last year \$4M. February 7-8 final budget from Governor. Representative Dave Millard retiring, big loss for the Fairs. Thank you for your help. Tourism is set at \$4M. Soliciting issues changing. Future champion of Fairs.

CONVENTION REVIEW –

- Seminars Kevin – All ready to go. Held 2 with good attendance. 3 looking for introduction. Had volunteers good to go. Youth day 13 participants for Saturday morning.
- Queen Report Karen – 58 contestants applied 2 have canceled Cumberland Ag and Juniata. Basket & raffle tables operating. Kevin is standing in for John Berne. Junior Fair person award to be given during Saturday banquet. McGowan will live stream coronation.
- Communications Martha Ebersole– doing well down to 36 this year.
- Spouse John Blaney – Tables open no problems.
- Showcase Sam Zaffuto– Had 26-27 applicants in the past 40-50. New sound & light. Larry Starcher canceled. Hershey bid \$75,000 found 6 people and ask for bids. Lighting Audio at \$13,000, most were qualified. What I saw from there will not be a problem. Good acts for the 2 banquets.
- Trade Show George Witherite 125 booths, down from the past.
- Credentials Craig – All ok
- Junior Fair Person – Sherman 4 really good applicants. Ready for Saturday night.
- Associates Galla Higinbotham – Really good sound. Echo Valley tomorrow really good. Nice looking trade show this year 20 some new associates

Tracy Barone – Working on payments checks will be in the mail.

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Kevin – Do not have an commitment from Egg producers for Angel Food Contest funding for Farm Show. \$1200 for the contest. Ben motioned if egg producers do not support the contest PSACF will fund \$1200 for the angel food contest, 2nd by Jana motion carried.

Sam – appreciation of officers. Thanked everyone who put their hours in to the Convention, noted Harry.

- President's Hospitality - Room 5806 (Thursday evening, after PSACF Banquet & Friday after PSSA Banquet)

- Board Picture

Thurs. 5:30PM Cocoa Terrace & 1

-PSACF Banquet (109th)

Thurs. 6:15PM Chocolate Ballroom

-Memorial Service / Annual Meeting

Friday -- 9:15AM Magnolia A-D

-Fair Advisory Committee Meeting

Following Annual Meeting

-Executive Breakfast

Sunday-- 8AM Cocoa Terrace & 1

Debbie Powers - Always was able to get help. Last 20 years harder and harder. H2B foreign labor from countries works 6 months and return to their homes. Always H2B very few American, most carnivals have no Americans. 66,000 allow through H3B, 33,000 April 1st remainder in October. This year October has already been capped. 136,555 people are looking for the 33,000. Carnivals are dying without employees. Bill emailed to staffer return works exemption. HR3897

Bev Gruber moved for adjournment, 2nd by Jim Reed.

Adjournment at 5:45

Respectfully Submitted



Harry Reffner

PSACF Executive Secretary/Treasurer