

**The California Mid-State Fair  
Heritage Foundation, Inc.  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

April 10, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Dave Belmont.

**BODs Present:** Michael Torgerson, Dave Belmont, Ernie Rey, John Peschong, Mike Coon, Deana Nelson, Patricia Lawrence, Mike Brady, Daren Friedle, Susan Beebe, Denise Stornetta, Brenda Fletcher

**BODs Absent:** Debbie Dusi, Tim Hartzell.

**Members/Guests:** Meg Evans, Anna Hahn, Scott Monroe, Mary Pat Reilly, Georgia Bollinger, Ashley Blanke, Branden Blanke, Christine Hale, Jim Braebeck, Todd Ventura, JD Cronin, Kay-C Cronin, Pat Moore, Irene Moore, Nancy Wheeler, Mike Bradley

**Approval of Agenda:** Michael Torgerson made a motion to approve the Agenda. Deana Nelson made the second to the motion which passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Susan Beebe motioned to approve the March 13, 2019 minutes. Brenda Fletcher made the second to the motion which passed unanimously.

**Announcements/Introductions/Member Comments:**

Dave Belmont asked the members and Board of Directors to introduce themselves.

**Financial Report:** The Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statements were distributed to the Board for the period of January – April 10, 2019. Michael Torgerson made a motion to approve the Monthly Financial Reports as submitted. Brenda Fletcher made the second to the motion which passed unanimously.

Deana Nelson presented the list of checks written since the last Board meeting. Mike Coon made a motion to ratify the checks written. Daren Friedle made the second to the motion which passed unanimously.

Unpaid Bills: Deana Nelson indicated there were no unpaid bills.

**Board Business:**

1. Membership – Brenda Fletcher reported that the membership committee is reaching out to any members who have not renewed to ensure they have been notified of renewal date of May 1, 2019.

Mike Coon stated that to date 36 balcony members have paid. There are 34 parties currently on the waiting list. The order of the waiting list was established by the date the request was received.

2. Concessions – Michael Torgerson reported that things are starting to move forward and contracts with our concessionaire are in the outline form and being discussed. The concessionaire and Michael met with the fair management to discuss the fair for 2019. The expansion for the Island Bar has been pushed off to begin after fair 2019, for opening during the 2020 fair. In addition, they're currently working on some shade improvements and the dirt area to become a concrete area. He anticipates further information at the next meeting.

3. Facilities – Chuck Fletcher could not attend, he reported via Dave Belmont that he is currently working on the exterior door that opens to Section 8. They are having some trouble matching the siding color, but he is continuing to work on it.
4. Youth Legacy Project - Todd Ventura and James Braebeck introduced the program that is being proposed for the fair in 2019. The Legacy Project has been presented to the Livestock Committee, Fair board and is now being presented to the Heritage Foundation. They are requesting a partnership with the Heritage Foundation.

Phase I – Scholarship: the recipient will receive up to a \$20,000 scholarship over a 4-year period for presenting the youth legacy project.

Phase II – Exhibitor hardship cases: exhibitors may apply for a pre-defined hardship as a result of participation in the fair. If the kids qualify, there will be funds available for kids that were not able to sell their projects for one reason or another. These funds will cover costs, to avoid them losing money.

Phase III – The anticipation is there will be \$100,000 available at the time of the fair. The plan is to try and get 50 donors at \$2,000 to get to the \$100,000. Other donations will be accepted, but they will not be a part of the initial 50 donors. The goal is to try and reengage some of the businesses that have possibly not participated at the livestock auction to the degree they have in the past.

They would like to compose a committee including the JAB Foundation, Fair Board and the Heritage Foundation. The funds can be held over if a project does not use the entire fund in any given year.

The project will be auctioned at the end of the parade of champions.

The funds will be raised ahead of time, the funds will be predetermined ahead of time and there will not be an ability to “bid” at the time of the “sale” of the project

The HF participation would be minimal, but they would like us to support the project by contacting our membership to give them the opportunity to become a part of the Legacy Project.

One concern about the fund is where the money will be spent and how the decision will be made. The committee will comprise members of the Heritage Foundation, Youth Legacy Fund and fair board.

After some discussion Daren Friedle made a motion to accept the proposal as presented by the James Braebeck Foundation. Michael Torgerson made the second to the motion which passed unanimously.

5. Fair Update – Mike Bradley CMSF CEO:
  - a. The fair board and Heritage Foundation board will be having a joint board retreat in May to discuss future;
  - b. VIP on fairgrounds on Saturday, Secretary of Ag for CA, Karen Ross. She was here to visit our fair, while in town;
  - c. Last fair board meeting, moving forward on the conference facility. The location has been proposed to be near the current office, Ponderosa etc. area, the other would be the stockyard building, Estrella Hall, Mission Square area and the Adelaide building;
  - d. Mission Square would become an atrium, the entire project is right around \$27million. The project is in the works and renderings will be available in the next couple of months;
  - e. Fire Marshall’s office has been targeting fairs in the state of CA, they are visiting all fair locations;
  - f. Fair just signed a new contract with the PCCHA for 5 years;

- g. Some free stage announcements have been made: Smash Mouth, Home Free, Luis Coronell and more to be announced. Danny Gokey will be here on faith night, in addition to a Johnny Cash Tribute “The Man in Black”.

**Board Comments:**

Daren Friedle would like to start paying down the barn loan quicker, based on the financials he will be proposing a payment schedule. John Peschong is still working on the Woods Claysen letter.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Stornetta *for*

Debbie Dusi  
Secretary

The Next Regular Board Meeting:  
Wednesday, May 8 , 2019