

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

June 10, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Chairman Michael Torgerson.

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

BODs Absent:

Members/Guests: Mitch Ardantz, Renee Argan, Steve Baker, Colleen Bojorquez, Elana Clark, Beverly Craig, Jerome Crannell, Jody Dauth, Denny d'Autremont Robert Denney, Sandi DeWar, Sandra Espinoza, Wendy Hall, Peter Kuyper, Tamara Nakamoto, Steven Nakamoto, Paul Peguero, Lanny Persinger, Desire Shroyer, Robert Stewart, Cynthia Wilshusen, Ken Thomas, Nancy Wheeler-Nichols.

Approval of Agenda: Brenda Fletcher made a motion to approve the agenda with the following additions: Special Committee Report; #2 James W. Brabeck Youth Legacy Fund Task Force, Denise Stornetta; #3 Legal Task Force, Dave Belmont; New Business; A. July meeting CMSF Heritage Foundation. Denise Stornetta made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Patricia Lawrence made a motion to approve the June 10, 2020 minutes. Ernie Rey made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

Announcements/Introductions/Member Comments:

Michael Torgerson explained how the chat feature in the Zoom meeting worked and asked anyone wishing to speak please identify themselves by typing their name thru this feature. Michael also clarified who a couple of the attendees were.

Financial Report: The Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statements were distributed to the Board for the period of January 1 – June 10, 2020. Deana Nelson indicated that the financial reports are fairly standard. Deana reported the barn loan is currently \$1,365, 366.66 which means we are making progress in paying it off.

Mike Coon made a motion to approve the monthly financial reports as submitted. Dave Belmont made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

Deana Nelson presented the list of checks written since the last Board meeting and indicated the check to AMS is for our insurance, the check in the amount of \$106 was for a hood inspection at the Island Bar. We also paid our taxes and the fees for having them prepared. Patricia Lawrence made a motion to ratify the checks written. Mike Brady made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

Deana Nelson reported she currently has no unpaid bills.

Board Business:

A. Standard Committees

1. Budget/Audit/Endowment – Daren Friedle – no report.
2. By-Law – John Peschong indicated the Committee would be meeting and will have recommendations for the Board.
3. Concessions – Dave Belmont – no report due to the cancellation of the fair. Dave indicated that our concessions contract with the fair will roll into next year.
4. Elections – Debbie Dusi reported elections on track.
5. Facilities – Ernie Rey – no report.
6. Media/Marketing – Susan Beebe – no report.

7. Membership – Brenda Fletcher indicated she felt membership was doing well, and that today is the final today to make pledge payments. Since the fairground have been closed because of the active shooter and law enforcement using the grounds for staging, there will be some additional checks to process as soon as they can get into the grounds. Brenda reported that 240-250 have paid, but there will be a more accurate report next month. Renee Argan indicated she had some questions. Brenda gave Renee her cell number and asked her to call after the meeting.
8. Balcony – Mike Coon stated there was 1 new member for balcony seats. Mike also noted that he personally called everyone with balcony seats who had not paid to let them know that must pay their membership pledge. Mike also informed the Board that he would like to get into the lounge as soon as he is able to work on the covers.
9. Scholarship – Tim Hartzell stated there were 6 scholarship applications, with 6 scholarships awarded. The scholarship recipients will go to Farm Bureau to pick up their checks.

B. Special Committee:

1. Hugh Pitts Memorial Fund Capitol Project – Dave Belmont – no report.
2. James W. Brabeck Youth Legacy Fund Task Force – Denise Stornetta explained to the Board that the Heritage Foundation had received a donation from the James W. Brabeck Youth Legacy Foundation in the amount of \$75,000.00 with the stipulation that this money was to be used in a way that would be in line with our mission statement. Being that the fair is cancelled there has been an idea brought forward to pay the related fees for the virtual auction (\$30,000-\$35,000) and then donate the rest back to the Brabeck Foundation to purchase animals. The Heritage Foundation would not be purchasing animals at the auction. The Brabeck Foundation is currently trying to collect funds to help purchase animals at the auction. Nothing has been finalized. The Brabeck Foundation is meeting today to determine if this would be possible. This decision is not up to the Heritage Foundation. The Brabeck Foundation and the Fair Board would have to agree. Michael Torgerson reiterated that at this time, all Denise was doing was informing the Board. Us saying this is a good idea, “does not make it happen”. Many Board members and guests felt it was a good idea, and seemed to fit our mission statement to support FFA and 4-H. There was some question since it appeared that when we received the donation it was for capital improvement. Brenda Fletcher assured that Board that the Brabeck Foundation did not stipulate that when they made the donation.
3. Legal Task Force – Dave Belmont explained to the Board that he and Michael Torgerson have been meeting with the fair for 8 months, or longer to update our Memorandum of Understanding. This is the document that allows us to operate on the fairgrounds. This document expires at the end of June and hopefully get renewed for another 10 years. Nothing is final yet, we are waiting for the Fair Board to approve their side of it. Dave indicated he would notify the Board as soon as he had anything to update. Mitch Ardantz indicated he was curious and asked if this was going to expire at the end of June with the Fair in July. Dave Belmont indicated that was correct, but due to COVID19 the approval got delayed. Ernie Rey asked where the Board sends questions if they have them? Michael Torgerson indicated that should be emailed to him or Dave Belmont

Old Business:

- 1.

New Business:

1. Debbie Dusi indicated we would be having a July meeting and wondered if we need a motion to reschedule that meeting. After some discussion, it was determined that a motion was not necessary as the meeting is on our regular meeting schedule.
2. Nancy Wheeler-Nichols CMSF Board of Director reported that the “biggest” thing was the Fair being cancelled. Nancy stated there is an Ag meeting next Monday, so more information about the virtual auction and sale, or any opportunity to have the kids on the grounds. With that Nancy turned it over to Colleen Bojorquez as things are changing so quickly, she would have the most update information.
3. Colleen Borjoquez indicated that the big thing was the Ag meeting Monday. Staff has researched numerous platforms and have committed to virtual. Kim and the livestock group will be going down to Del Mar to help them with their virtual program. The livestock entry has been extended 1 day and is now May 10th at midnight. The numbers look pretty good with the entries being at 80-90% of what we normally have. Newsletters are going out. Colleen stressed that is more important than ever to get the letters out to the buyers as it is not going to be as easy as in the past. Colleen felt we may see many new buyers this year.

Board Comments:

Brenda Fletcher thanked everyone that has stuck with us and stated that “just because the fair is not happening, we are still here”.

John Peschong thanked Colleen for her hard work. John asked that we pray for the deputy that was shot, he is about to go into surgery.

Tim Hartzell asked everyone to stay safe and welcomed Colleen to the world of fair management.

Patricia Lawrence clarified a couple of phone messages.

Mike Brady indicated he liked the Zoom format and it might be something we should consider in the future. Mike stated it was nice to have so many members participating in the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Dusi
Secretary

The Next Regular Board Meeting:
Wednesday, July 8, 2020