

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

January 10, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Beebe.

BODs Present: Susan Beebe, Dave Belmont, Mike Coon, Joanne Cummings, Debbie Dusi, Brenda Fletcher, Daren Friedle, Deana Nelson, John Peschong, Ross Tenhaeff, Michael Torgerson

BODs Absent: Braden Blanke, Patricia Lawrence

Members/Guests: Steve Baker, Mike Bianchi, Colleen Boroquez, Howard Brewen, Deb Cipriano, Michael Cipriano, Kim Daily, Thomas Humphrey, Lori Marquez, Steve Nakamoto,

Approval of Agenda: John Peschong made a motion to approve the agenda. Daren Friedle made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

Election of Officers: John Peschong presented the following Slate of Officers for 2024: Michael Torgerson, Chairman; Daren Friedle, Vice-Chairman, Debbie Dusi, Secretary, Deana Nelson, Chief Financial Officer. Vice-Chairman Beebe asked if there were any additional nominations. Being none, John Peschong motioned to approve the Slate of Officers for 2024. Joanne Cummings made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Susan Beebe turned the meeting over to the newly elected Vice-Chairman Daren Friedle.

Approval of Minutes: Deana Nelson motioned to approve the November 8, 2023, Annual Membership Meeting Minutes and the November 8, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes with the addition of Kim Mott as Member in attendance. Joanne Cummings made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

Approval Of Minutes: Deana Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 30, 2023, Board of Directors Zoom Meeting. Dave Belmont made the second to the motion. The motion passed with 11 in favor and 1 abstention.

Announcements/Introductions/Member Comments:

Vice-Chairman Friedle asked the guests to introduce themselves.

Financial Report:

A. Financials
The Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statements were distributed to the Board for the period January – December 2023.

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After some discussion, John Peschong made a motion to approve the monthly financial reports as submitted. Dave Belmont made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

The list of checks written since the last meeting was presented. Deana Nelson informed the Board that due to a significant increase in AT&T monthly charges our new provider is Spectrum. Dave Belmont made a motion to ratify the checks written. Joanne Cummings made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

Deana Nelson reported that there were no unpaid bills.

Board Business:

- A. A list of the Proposed Committee Members for 2024 was presented. John Peschong made a motion to approve the list as presented. Deana Nelson made a second to the motion, which passed unanimously.
- B. Standard Committees
 1. Budget/Audit/Endowment – Daren Friedle indicated he would have a budget to present in February. Daren asked the Board to contact him before the next meeting if they had any items for the 2024 budget.
 2. By-Laws –John Peschong - no report.
 3. Concessions – Dave Belmont reported to the Board that work has begun on the island bar, and work will begin on the new concession when they receive the key.
 4. Elections – John Peschong stated that this is an election year. He will present the Board members up for election at the next meeting.
 5. Facilities – Ross Tenhaeff indicated that the cameras in the Heritage Lounge will be finalized next month.
 6. Media/Marketing – Susan Beebe – no report.
 7. Membership – Brenda Fletcher stated pledges went out December 2, 2023, and are due April 1, 2024.
 8. Balcony – Mike Coon indicated we have 60 on the wait list.
 9. Scholarship – Joanne Cummings – no report.
- C. Special Committees:
 1. Hugh Pitts Memorial Fund Capital Project – Dave Belmont informed the Board that there is a conceptual project in the works. Dave indicated the family along with the Fair Board supports a New Ag Gate on 24th Street in memory of Hugh Pitts. Dave will report to the Board as the concept moves forward.
 2. Legal Task Force – Dave Belmont – no report.
 3. Capital Improvements – Deana Nelson stated the Heritage Foundation received an anonymous check for \$45,000 to fund the update of the fair’s computers. Deana explained that the Fair has still requested support to reconfigure the front gate. After some discussion, Deana Nelson made a motion to provide up to \$65,000 to update the front gates. Joanne Cummings made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously. Deana also informed the Board that the Fair Board gave the approval to begin research, including meeting with the staff on the concept of the new beef barn. After some questions, Deana Nelson made a motion to approve the beef barn as the next Capital Improvement project. Joanne Cummings made a second to the motion, which passed with one abstention.

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Old Business:

A.

New Business:

- A. CMSF Board of Director Liaison Update – Nancy Nichols – no report.
- B. Fair Update – Colleen Boroquez CMSF CEO reported that Rob Boneso is now serving as the Fair Board President, and Nancy Nichols is serving as the Vice-President. Colleen indicated events as normal are very busy and listed on the web. In addition, Colleen stated that updates on Estrella Hall were done with state funding and look great. Entertainment for the Fair is coming along, hopefully, something will be announced in a few weeks. Colleen also reported some legislative changes in the rules regarding Fair Board meetings. In conclusion, Colleen reported that there were no foundations represented at the WFA conference this year and that the conference will be in Reno for the next three years.

Board Comments:

Joanne Cummings reported that this is the 25th anniversary of the Heritage Foundation, and the committee is currently working on something to commemorate it.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Debbie Dusi
Secretary

***The Next Regular Board Meeting:
February 14, 2024***