



Meeting Minutes

Agricultural Advisory Council Meeting

Held on
Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.
Cal Expo Boardroom, Administration Building

Chris Zanobini, Chair
Robert Gore, Vice Chair

Attendees

Committee Members

Marit Arana
Tyler Blackney
Terry Bressler
Eric Carleson
Judy Culbertson
Sara Curtis
Lesa Eldman
George Gough
Ernie Hodges
Jennifer Johnson
Gail Kautz
Marcia Kimura
Sharon Lynch

Lloyd McCabe
Harry Moos
Rick Nelson
Suzanne Oppegard
Harold Petersen
Gary Pevey
Len Richardson
Mary Richardson
Lee Ruth
Ron Schuler
Walt Shaw
Brett Tank
Terry Witzel

Board, Staff and Volunteers

Corny Gallagher, Liaison State Fair Board of Directors
Rina DiMare, Liaison State Fair Board of Directors
Rick Pickering, CEO
Tom Martinez, Chief Deputy General Manager
Samantha Brown, Deputy General Manager, Administration
Rachelle Weir, Programs Manager
Jay Carlson, AG Programs Manager
Don Callison, Staff
Zsi Widman, Staff
Sue O'Brien, Staff

1. Call to order and Introductions

Council Chair Zanobini called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

2. Introductions of Guests and Staff

Introductions were made around the room.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2017

Motion:

It was moved by Vice Chair Gore and seconded by Councilmember Petersen to approve meeting minutes from September 19, 2017. **All in favor, motion carried unanimously.**

4. Membership Update

a. AAC Applicant Introductions

AG Programs Manager Carlson reviewed the membership application of DeAnn Tenhunfeld, Community Education Specialist 2 for California State 4-H Office.

b. Application Review and Approval

After a brief discussion a motion was made.

Motion:

Chair Zanobini recommended a motion to the Board of Directors to approve the nomination of DeAnn Tenhunfeld. Motion moved by Councilmember Culbertson and seconded by Councilmember Opegard. **All in favor, motion carried unanimously.**

5. Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee (Zanobini)

Committee Chair Zanobini reported out that the Executive Committee discussed nominations and the nomination committee, Friends of the Fair Gala, re-established the Gala Committee, Sale of Champions and AAC by-laws. The Committee discussed the AAC by-laws. There was a brief discussion about a buyers group from the Sale of Champion and Councilmember Schuler will be talking with them.

Chair Zanobini asked to take item 7 out of order and include it with item b and there were no objections.

b. Gala/California's Wine/Agriculturalist of the Year Committee (Lynch)

Committee Chair Lynch reported that this committee has met with Staff to discuss concerns about the Gala program and developing a new time table for the Gala.

c. Farm and Food Committee (Zanobini)

Committee Chair Zanobini reported that this committee has not met. AG Programs Manager Carlson reported that Easley Nursery has donated over 600

winter crop plants to the Farm. This will allow crops to be harvested in the Spring during School Tours.

- d. Ag Heritage Committee (Culbertson)
Committee Chair Culbertson reported that this committee had met and Ag Heritage Club membership and sponsorship forms are available. The committee is looking for new sponsorships to add to the existing sponsorship that they already have.
- e. Equine Program Committee (Oppegard)
Committee Chair Oppegard reviewed staff's report regarding Equine program planning for the 2018 State Fair. There was a discussion about the Rodeo RFP and AG Program Manager Carlson reported that staff is working on finding Equine type events for the Rodeo Arena.
- f. Livestock and Animal Care Committee (Gough)
Committee Chair Gough reported the committee has not met.
- g. Youth Development and Recognition Committee (McCabe)
Committee Chair McCabe reported the committee has not met. The State Fair Scholarship applications are available online and the deadline to submit the applications is March 1, 2108.

6. Cal Expo and 2018 Fair Programs Updates

- a. 2018 Fair Dates: July 13-29, 2018
AG Programs Manager Carlson reported that the programs department is moving forward with the competitive programs, locating judges and updating competitive handbooks.
CEO Pickering announced that the California State Fair is the most awarded and recognized fair, nationally and internationally by the International Associations of Fairs and Expositions. CEO Pickering went on to explain how Cal Expo is working with Visit Sacramento and the City of Sacramento while the Sacramento Convention Center is being remodeled.

7. Agriculturalist of the Year Nomination Process (Lynch)

Committee Chair Lynch announced that the Agriculturalist of the Year nomination process is open and the deadline for nominations is January 19, 2018 and a voting will take place that the February 20, 2018 meeting.

8. Council Members Comments/Agenda Items for Future Meetings

None

9. Other

None

10. Adjournment

The Agricultural Advisory Council Meeting was adjourned at 5:16pm.