

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

May 13, 2020

The closed session meeting was called to order at 5:30 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, Ernie Rey, Denise Stornetta, Michael Torgerson.

**BODs Absent:** John Peschong

No Action Taken

The closed session meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m. to reconvene to the Board of Directors meeting.

The Boarding of Directors meeting was called to order at 6:33 by Chairman Michael Torgerson.

Chairman Torgerson explained to the attendees how the meeting was going to be conducted.

**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, Steve Baker, David Baldwin, Ashley Blanke, Branden Blanke, Colleen Bojorquez, Darya Boland, JD Cronin, Kay-C Cronin, Joanne Cummings, Denny d'Autremont, Jody Dauth, Dale Gomer, Espinoza LaSondra, Meg Evans, Christina Hale, Wendy Hall, Stanley Maar, Tobin James, Marianne Johnson, Liz Lee, David Maislen, Irene Moore, Patrick Moore, Scott Moore, Steven Nakamoto, Chandra Needelman, David Needelman, Eric Osborn, Kristin Osborn, Nicole Peguero, Paul Peguero, Cindy Petrelli, Therese Shapero, Constance Stewart, Robert Stewart, Cari Thomas, Eric Thomas, Susie Torgerson, Doug Verboon, Nancy Wheeler-Nichols, Cynthia Wilshusen.

**Approval of Agenda:** Ernie Rey made a motion to approve the agenda. Dave Belmont made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mike Brady made a motion to approve the March 11, 2020 minutes. John Peschong made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Announcements/Introductions/Member Comments:**

Michael Torgerson asked if any guests had comments.

David Maislen asked the Board if there was a contingency plan should the 2020 Fair be canceled. Michael Torgerson explained to the membership that it was premature at this time to discuss this issue since the CMSF Board had not canceled the Fair. He assured the membership that the Heritage Board is working hard to develop a contingency plan should the 2020 Fair be canceled.

**Financial Report:** The Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statements were displayed for the period of January 1 – May 13, 2020. Denise Stornetta made a motion to approve the monthly financial reports as submitted. Ernie Rey made the second to the motion, which passed unanimously.

A list of checks written was displayed. Deana Nelson indicated the checks were the normal payments, except for the check to Paso Robles Lock and Safe, which was the new lock on

the door to secure the tables and chairs. Daren Friedle made a motion to ratify the checks written. Dave Belmont 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 - no report.
3. Concessions – Dave Belmont indicated the committee was just waiting for word from the CMSF.
4. Elections – Debbie Dusi – no report.
5. Facilities – Ernie Rey – no report.
6. Media/Marketing – Susan Beebe indicated they are working to better inform the membership and that Mike Brady has agreed to help.
7. Membership – Brenda Fletcher reminded everyone of the June 1, 2020 deadline for membership pledges. Brenda went on to explain that 100% of the pledge monies goes directly to support the 16<sup>th</sup> District Agricultural Association, 4-H and FFA The Heritage Foundation is working on contingency plans should the fair be cancelled and will keep everyone informed. There are currently 105 on the wait list.
8. Balcony – Mike Coon indicated there are 48 on the wait list, and that since the 2020 Fair is still scheduled to happen, he is moving forward.
9. Scholarship – Tim Hartzell reported there are 6 applications. They are processing them and will meet next week.

B. Special Committee:

1. Hugh Pitts Memorial Fund Capitol Project – Dave Belmont – no report.

**Old Business:**

1. No reports.

**New Business:**

1. Nancy Wheeler-Nichols CMSF Board of Director deferred to David Baldwin CMSF Board of Directors President. David Baldwin indicated that now was not the time to entertain a discussion about the 2020 Fair as the decision to go forward has not been made. David stated he understands these are frustrating time, but the Fair Board does not want to make a “knee jerk” decision. All avenues are being pursued for financial relief including reaching out to Senators, along with the State and Federal Governments. David indicated the public would be informed if a decision is made to cancel the fair.
2. Colleen Bojorquez CMSF Interim CEO gave a brief history of her background and indicated she has worked for the Fair since 1992. Colleen explained the State of California fairs are in sorry shape and many fairs will not return. The Fair is looking for funding everywhere and thinking of anything that would help with the funding issues. If the Fair does not happen, many exhibitors and vendors will be losing out. Colleen asked if anyone could offer help with Sacramento, please do so. Colleen thanked the CMSF Board of Directors for their confidence in her and will continue to work very hard so that the Fair will be here for another 75 years.

**Board Comments:**

Dave Belmont thanked everyone on the membership committee for all their hard work.

Mike Brady stated he first stepped foot on the fairgrounds when he was 3, that the fair is about community and regardless what happens we will all pull together and survive this.

Debbie Dusi explained she could not use the participant list as many guests were signed in under phones numbers, iPhones or sign in names that did not include their name. Debbie asked that all guests to email their name to her at the Heritage Office so that she would be able to verify who was in attendance.

Brenda Fletcher thanked Colleen for all her hard work.

Patricia Lawrence asked that we give the guests the email address. Denise Stornetta indicated the email address was heritagemember@att.net.

John Peschong thanked Colleen, and indicated we are “lucky to have her”. John reported the recovery rate in SLO County from the Corona virus is 99.45 which is “good news”.

Michael Torgerson thanked all the guests for attending the first Heritage Foundation Board of Directors Zoom meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Dusi  
Secretary

The Next Regular Board Meeting:  
Wednesday, June 10, 2020