



Mission Statement

"The mission statement of the Sonoma County Fair Foundation is to raise and steward funds to support facility improvements and special projects of the Sonoma County Fair and to support and strengthen agricultural education in Sonoma County."

Sonoma County Fair Foundation Board Meeting Agenda Friday, May 3, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

**Administration Board Room - Sonoma County Fairgrounds
1350 Bennett Valley Road Santa Rosa, CA**

MEMBERS: Pat Emery, President; Les Perry, Secretary; Christine Margetts, Treasurer; Marilyn Herzog, Terry Lindley, Summer Jeffus, Ken Lafranchi, Marcia Mickelson, Annette O'Kelley

AGENDA

1. Approval of the April 5, 2024, Fair Foundation Meeting Minutes (Attachment #1)
2. Discussion and possible action regarding 2024 Fair time hands-on exhibit in the SaraLee and Richards Barn
3. Update on Grace Pavilion façade – Isaac Gentry
4. Report on the status of Fair activities
5. Other items of interest
6. Request for Future Agenda Items
7. Adjournment

NEXT MEETING: June 7, 2024



**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
Sonoma County Fair Foundation**

Meeting Date and Time: April 5, 2024, at 9:00 am

Meeting Place: Administration Board Room

Directors Present: Pat Emery, President; Les Perry, Secretary; Christine Margetts, Treasurer, Terry Lindley, Annette O’Kelley, Marcia Mickelson, Marilyn Herzog

Directors Absent: Summer Jeffus, Ken LaFranchi

Others Present: CEO Becky Bartling, COO Matt Daly, CFO Cyndy Dalbeck, Isaac Gentry, Hope Marshall, Debbie Townsend, Jennifer Herrera

President Pat Emery called the meeting to order at 8:59 a.m.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting on March 1, 2024:

Director Lindley made the motion to approve the March 1, 2024, meeting minutes; Director Herzog seconded the motion; **the motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion and possible action to approve financial statements through February 2024:

Treasurer Margetts shared that the only thing that has been posted on the accounts is interest. Margetts made the motion to approve draft financial statements and to move to review and approve financial statements from a monthly to a quarterly basis. Director Herzog seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion and possible action regarding Rent Consideration Request received from Sonoma Family Meal for use of the Saralee & Richard’s Barn for a fundraiser on November 9, 2024:

Whitney Reuling, Executive Director of Sonoma Family Meal presented on the Sonoma Family Meal organization to support 2000 food insecure residents by providing tuition-free culinary job training, quality emergency meals, and support for the local food ecosystem. Director Margetts recommends that this request go to the Buildings and Grounds Committee of the Fair Board. President Emery is in favor of using the building for a good purpose such as Sonoma Family Meal and Director O’Kelley supports the vocational piece for the students. Director O’Kelley made the motion to approve granting the rent consideration for Sonoma Family Meal to host their fundraiser in the Saralee & Richard’s Barn. Director Lindley seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion and possible action regarding 2024 Fair time programs and display in the SaraLee and Richards Barn:

President Emery, CEO Bartling, and Hope Marshall shared the current plan for the Saralee Barn during the 2024 Fair which will consist of a petting zoo, miniature animals, hands-on educational activities, Better with Bunnies, Beekeepers, goat play gym, and bottle-feeding small animals. The programs will be supported by \$10,000 each from the Fair Foundation, the Kunde Fund, and the Fair. Director Mickelson recommends educating the public about the production of animals from the stages of newborn and up and having a contest. Director Margetts would like to create stickers for the kids to wear after visiting the Barn. Director Herzog and Margetts suggest having three interns work during the Fair as educators to share the value of the internship program. Director O'Kelley shared that she has started her outreach and has recruited 18 for the Foundation's summer internship program.

Director Herzog made the motion to approve the Fair Foundation to cover the cost NTE \$10,000 to coordinate ag educational exhibits and activities in the Saralee Barn during the 2024 Fair; Director Herzog seconded the motion; **the motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion and possible action regarding granting the Sonoma County Winegrape Commission two days per year in the barn.

Director Lindley made the motion to approve granting the Sonoma County Winegrape Commission two days per year in the barn, without a rent consideration request, for employee recognition events, with mutually agreed upon dates with a 6-month advance notice. Director Herzog seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Update on Grace Pavilion facade.

Superintendent Gentry provided an update on the Grace Pavilion façade. A general contractor has been selected and will commence the work on May 13, 2024, with 4 days of structural work and 4 days of stucco. The Fair will pay for the work and the Foundation will reimburse. The expected project completion date is May 23, 2024.

Report on the status of Fair activities:

CEO Bartling shared the details on the popular equestrian show, the Flower Show progress, and the changes with Community Theater and Shade Park. Bartling confirmed that there will be racing in 2024, a llama show, goat races, water skiing squirrel, the Globe of Death, and many circus acts throughout the fair. Interim business is doing great with a lot of events scheduled in April and May. **No action was taken.**

Other items of interest

None

Future Agenda Items

None

President Emery adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: May 3, 2024