



Maryland Department of Agriculture

Agriculture | Maryland's Leading Industry

Office of Marketing
Animal Industries and Consumer Services

Larry Hogan, Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

Joseph Bartenfelder, Secretary

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Agricultural Fair Board

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Maryland Agricultural Fair Board Minutes June 22, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Diane Geary, Chairperson at 10:03 via zoom meeting.

Attendance

Board- Linda Brown, David Cavey, Jo Ann Cashman, Diane Geary, Daniel Mast, Rob Moxley, Connie Palmer, Hal Spielman

Staff- Jessica O'Sullivan

Minutes of May 8, 2020

Motion to accept previous minutes was approved first by Jo Ann Cashman and seconded by Rob Moxley. Minutes approved

Reports by the Executive Secretary

The Secretary gave an update on the fairs and shows have recently cancelled due to COVID-19 and how that affect this year. The 2020 brochure is being kept virtual and will not be printed this year. With each cancellation our designer is updated and makes a new document to be posted on the webpage. Once the changes are made and finalized for the week a copy is sent to the fair board members. The Pamelyn Burke is very responsive when it comes to updating the brochure and wants to make the information as clear as possible. With some fairs/shows offering a virtual option we are trying to find a way to add that into the brochure. The fiscal department was reached and with the decrease in funds coming in we are still predicted to have a carry over for FY21 of 64,000. As of right now the Maryland State Fair has stated that they are continuing as planned. They will make a final decision on August 1st.

Updates

With the current COVID-19 situation several of the fairs and shows scheduled for 2020 have sadly had to reschedule or cancel all together. It was discussed and a motion was passed that if a fair or show was to happen in FY20 and they have had to reschedule or cancel they would still receive the promised amount on their FY20 grant agreement as long as the after-activity report was completed. This means that even though there will be a decrease in the funds we receive fairs and shows will not be affected for FY20. FY21 however is another situation. The board has decided for the grant agreements to keep the funds the same as FY20 for FY21 with an additional section to the agreement that states **PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT AT THIS TIME THE BOARD IS UNAWARE OF THE FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR AND DUE TO SUCH EVENTS GRANT FUNDS ARE SUBJECT TO BE REDUCED OR ELIMINATED.** If a fair or show has canceled but they have already purchased ribbons, trophies or awards the board will still be giving out grant money as long as they turn in an after-activity report showing their spending. Some fairs and shows are offering a virtual option to allow 4H kids to show their projects and later auction them off. The board will fund these virtual fairs and shows as long as they are professionally judged. If a fair or

show also pays out premiums the board has advised the fair or show to add a section in their rule book that states that premiums are subject to change due to current funding. Exact wording for this section was received from Jo Ann Cashman and was sent out to all fairs and shows via email. All FY21 grant agreements have been mailed out for signatures. Some fairs and shows are waiting to see what the future holds to see if they will be able to have their fair or show as planned.

Upcoming Board Meetings

The next meeting will be July 17, 2020 at 10:00 A.M. via zoom.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Hal Spielman and seconded by Jo Ann Cashman the meeting adjourned at 10:45.

Respectfully Submitted by Jessica O'Sullivan Executive Secretary