



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

November 18, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Diane Geary, Acting Chairperson at 10:10 AM at the Maryland Department of Agriculture Building.

Attendance

Board- Linda Brown, Jo Ann Cashman, David Cavey, Diane Geary, Elizabeth MacDonald, Daniel Mast, James Moxley III, Connie Palmer, Hal Spielman

Staff- Donna Hill, Logan Yearsley

Guests- Charlie Cawley, Steve Connelly, Craig Nielson, Mark Powell, Dr. Michael Radebaugh

Minutes of March 18, 2015

Motion to accept – Jo Ann Cashman and seconded by Daniel Mast to approve.
Motion Passed

Nomination and Election of Chair and Vice-Chairperson

Diane Geary nominated for Chairperson by Hal Spielman and seconded by Jo Ann Cashman. Motion to cease nominations by Hal Spielman and seconded by James Moxley III. Motion Passed. Moved by acclamation to accept the nomination by Elizabeth MacDonald and by Daniel Mast. Motion Passed

Hal Spielman nominated for Vice Chairperson by Jo Ann Cashman and seconded by Daniel Mast. Motion to cease nominations by Jo Ann Cashman and seconded by Elizabeth MacDonald. Motion Passed. Moved by acclamation to accept the nomination by Diane Geary and seconded by Daniel Mast. Motion Passed

State Veterinarian Report

State Veterinarian Dr. Michael Radebaugh gave information to the board over the State's stance on poultry being exhibited at local, county and the state fairs. The prior stance of no poultry or waterfowl will be reviewed. Dr. Radebaugh will work with Logan Yearsley to get a document prepared that can be sent to all effected shows and fairs. The current stance being considered would be to reconsider the all-out ban on poultry and allow for 1-day exhibition of poultry. If poultry were to be sold, it would need to be a terminal sale, and a record kept. There would be no private sales allowed.

Fiscal Services Report

Fiscal Administrator Charlie Cawley gave information to the board over budget and appropriation of funds. There will once again be a shortfall in funds received from the Racing Commission. There was a discussion over what that might mean in the ability to grant out funds. Logan Yearsley suggested that grants and other costs be limited to account for the shortfall. The board should strive to keep within 1.2 million.

Online Applications Report

Executive Secretary Logan Yearsley updated the board on the new online application progress. The online applications have been well received so far. He is working with all applicants to answer any questions they may have. There have been three applications received thus far. The new electronic version will allow the staff to send out the applications once received and verified very quickly to the board for review. This new process eliminates the countless hours of hand scanning in the applications received from 69 different groups. There were only 5 groups that he had not had direct contact with. This would be resolved very quickly.

Judges List Report

Executive Secretary Logan Yearsley updated the board on the need to re-create the Judges List. He is working with UMD Extension Agent Chris Anderson. Their hope is to pool information from UMD Extension, MAAFS and MDAG. The new list will include approved judges for indoor and livestock classes. His hope is to have a workable document by early spring.

Assistant Secretary Welcome

New Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Maryland, Steve Connelly introduced himself and welcomed the new members of the board.

Fair Brochure – 2016-2017

Sater Communications, a minority owned business is among one of three groups to be considered for the design of the brochure. The other candidates are Harris Plus Printing and the State Prison. Prices will be solicited from various printers for printing. 35,000 copies will be printed and sent to all state Welcome Centers, all libraries, local Farm Bureau's, Extension Offices, all fairs and shows, and local tourist offices. It will also be on the MDAG website.

Regional Meetings with Applicants

The board members divided the applicants by regions. The applicants will receive the list of regions and dates for their meetings. The applicants will then have the opportunity to discuss with their assigned board member if that time will work. Logan Yearsley will be updating the list and sending it to the board for review in the next week.

4-H & FFA

The issue of 4-H & FFA members selling in two different county sales was brought up and discussed. FFA plays a limited role in livestock being exhibited by FFA

members. 4-H tags the animals exhibited by FFA members and handles Quality Assurance education. Logan Yearsley will work with Terri Shank of Maryland FFA to provide each show, county fair and the state fair with a list of approved FFA members and their appropriate teacher who must sign off on the member to exhibit. 4-H members cannot hold 4-H membership in two counties.

The second issue relates to 4-H members showing as 4-H members in more than their home county fair. This happens only in Southern MD. This appears discriminatory since nowhere else in the state can 4-H'ers show in other than their own county fair and state fair as 4-H members. .

It is the boards wish to encourage youth involvement in agriculture. With that in mind the Executive Secretary will reach out to both 4-H and FFA in an effort to resolve this issue.

Application Deadline

Executive Secretary Logan Yearsley asked the board for their thoughts on moving the deadline back to later in December, possibly the 31st for FY18 applications. The new online applications eliminate a good deal of lag between when the application is submitted and when it is then sent out to the board for consideration. The board consensus was to wait until this year's applications are received for FY17, to see how things went. The state statutes only require that the applications be received one month prior to the boards funding meeting which takes place in mid-March.

Board Funding

Executive Secretary Logan Yearsley updated the board on ways that he and MDAG planned to work to resolve the funding issues.

Additional Discussion

Board member Jo Ann Cashman asked Logan Yearsley what the current status was on checks being sent to fairs and shows for FY15. He stated that there were a few transitional issues and that he was working with Donna Hill to get an exact accounting on where everything stood. Once he has that information he would update the board and reach out to all concerned parties.

Upcoming Board Meetings

February 15, 2016 held at the State Fair Grounds

March 28, 2016 held at MDAG

November 16, 2016 held at MDAG

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Hal Spielman and seconded by Daniel Mast. Chairperson, Diane Geary adjourned the meeting at 2:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Logan Yearsley", is centered below the text. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Logan Yearsley, Executive Secretary