

Minutes of: 25th District Agricultural Association

Meeting Held on: Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Directors Present: Myrna Abramowicz, Paul Battisti, Don Carr, Jim Cathcart, Dave Dickson, Hope Lugo, Peggy O'Kelly and Greg Rodeno

Directors Absent And Excused: Paul Dohring

Staff Present: Joseph Anderson and Denise Davis

Others Present: Muriel Fagiani, Jack Fichtenberg, Jack Hussey, Barry Martin, Deputy Attorney General Anita Ruud, John Salmon, Mark Woodenkeller

ROLL CALL AND QUORUM CONFIRMATION

President Abramowicz called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m., confirming the presence of a quorum.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Abramowicz called for approval of the agenda.

Vice President Dickson moved approval of the agenda as presented. Director Carr seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Abramowicz opened the floor for public comment.

Business Assistant Denise Davis thanked the Board for the wonderful wedding presents, and thanked Interim CEO Joseph Anderson for saving the wedding day by coming through and playing the music at the wedding when the musician hired to play failed to show up.

Hearing nothing further, President Abramowicz closed this portion of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The following corrections were made to the minutes from Tuesday, September 16, 2003:

Page 1, Public Comment

Muriel Fagiani addressed the Board, requesting that dates of meetings for which minutes were being approved be listed on the agenda. Denise will make this correction on future agendas.

Page 1, Approval of Minutes

Vice President Dickson moved approval of the minutes from August 18th. Director Lugo seconded the motion. The motion carried with Directors O'Kelly and Rodeno abstaining.

Page 2, Approval of Minutes

Vice President Dickson moved approval of the minutes from August 28th. Director O'Kelly seconded the motion. The motion carried with Directors Carr, Dohring and Lugo abstaining.

Page 4, Final Phase II Land Use Planning Report

Public Comment – President Abramowicz opened the floor for public comment.

Director Carr moved approval of the minutes from September 16th, 2003 as corrected. Director Rodeno seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS AND PROGRAM REPORTS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee – There was no Executive Committee report at this meeting.

Personnel Committee – There was no Personnel Committee report at this meeting.

Friends Committee – There was no Friends Committee report at this meeting.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Director Battisti gave the Buildings and Grounds Committee report. The Plaza Stage area has experienced significant damage since Fair thanks to the eucalyptus limbs falling onto the concession stands. Interim CEO Anderson explained the damage to the booths along Fourth Street, the costs associated with repair and insurance claims, and the plans for the future of that building. Right now, the plan is to consolidate the food booths that are in that row of booths to the open booths in the row that backs to Burnell Street, with only one or two booths remaining along Fourth Street. The remaining booths, most of which are used for storage by the Fair, should be torn down.

Livestock Committee – Interim CEO Anderson gave the Livestock Committee report. Everything went very well with Fair. No complaints. It is possible that weight limits will be changed for 2004, on recommendation from the slaughter houses and processing plants we deal with. The committee elected their slate of officers for 2004.

Finance Committee – Director O'Kelly gave the Finance Committee report. She participated in the exit interview for the recent audit of calendar year 2002. There were very minor notations from the audit, but no adjustments that affected the bottom line. Overall, the audit went very well.

Real Estate and Development Committee – Vice President Dickson and Director Rodeno deferred their report to Item 6.3.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Board will address the written to and response from Deputy Attorney General Anita Ruud under Item 6.3.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business brought up by Board members at this meeting.

FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES

President Abramowicz reviewed the dates of the next three Board meetings.

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following: Rental Agreements # 2003-100 through and including # 2003-101, Rental Agreement # 2004-002, and Standard Agreement # STD-03-48.

Director Rodeno moved approval of the Consent Calendar as presented. Director Lugo seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Director Battisti reported on the meeting of the Nominating Committee. The committee recommends the following slate of officers for the 2004 calendar year: President - Myrna Abramowicz and Vice President - Dave Dickson.

President Abramowicz asked for additional nominations from the floor. None were received.

Director Rodeno moved to close the nominations. Director Battisti seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Rodeno moved the slate of officers recommended by the Nominating Committee: President – Myrna Abramowicz, Vice President – Dave Dickson. Director Carr seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ON THE RESPONSE FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE RE: JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

Vice President Dickson briefly reviewed the progress of the Real Estate and Development Committee since the last Board meeting.

In September, a plan of action was approved by this Board, a request was sent to the Department of Food and Agriculture asking for additional funding to continue the planning process, and a list of questions were developed and sent to the Attorney General's office for answers.

Since that meeting, no formal discussions have taken place with any of our stake holders due to the change in governor. We are on the list of priorities for 2004 in the County Administrator's Office. We have received a letter from the Department of Food and Agriculture pledging \$50,000 in matching funds towards our planning process. We have received answers in writing from the Attorney General's office, and we have Deputy Attorney General Anita Ruud here to address things should more questions arise from the response.

CEO/MANAGER'S REPORT

Summer Fair Update – Interim CEO Anderson gave an update of the 2003 Summer Fair. Police and security ran very smoothly this year, with very minor incidents. We had a few more medical assistance emergencies than in years past.

The carnival was the best we've had here in a long time. The carnival contract is up this year, and we will be soliciting a new contract for a five year term coming this fall.

The Board discussed the changes in the Plaza Stage area and commended Interim CEO Anderson for the idea to renovate and the caliber of entertainment brought to the Fair this year.

Interim CEO Anderson addressed the Board regarding the preliminary report of health and safety issues from our inspection earlier this year. He will have a cost analysis of the repairs that need to happen by December.

For budgeting purposes, we will be depreciating assets this year to reflect accumulated depreciation and depreciation expenses beginning January 2004.

The Mustard Festival has announced that they will be holding their 2004 Marketplace event at Copia. Director Carr would like Interim CEO Anderson to meet with the Mustard Festival promoters to bring them back to the Expo site, as a deal is not yet finalized at Copia.

Interim CEO Anderson announced that Business Assistant O'Brien would be getting married in October and taking a one year's leave of absence beginning in February 2004, while she and her husband explore life in New Zealand. Interim CEO Anderson has interviewed someone who could step into the Business Assistant position as a 119-day employee and is interested in the job at this time. Other options, like contracting the accounting out to California Fairs Services Authority are also being explored.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the 25th District Agricultural Association Board of Directors adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Joseph Anderson, Interim CEO Date

Myrna Abramowicz, President Date