

Minutes of: 25th District Agricultural Association

Meeting Held on: Tuesday, November 19, 2002

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

Staff Present: Joseph Anderson and Denise O'Brien

State Officials Present: Deputy Attorney General Anita Ruud

Others Present: Muriel Fagiani, Jack Fichtenberg, Jack Hussey, Laura Lafler, Barry Martin, Chuck Neidhoffer, Bonnie Nixon, John Salmon, Kirk Trost, Cassandra Walker

ROLL CALL AND QUORUM CONFIRMATION

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Battisti called for approval of the agenda. Director Dickson asked that the update from the City of Napa be removed from Item 6b. Vice President Abramowicz asked that Items 5 and 6 be combined.

Vice President Abramowicz moved approval of the agenda as corrected. Director Lugo seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

President Battisti introduced Deputy Attorney General Anita Ruud . She will be acting as our new counsel.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Battisti opened the floor for public comment.

Chuck Neidhoffer of the Napa Valley Charter School addressed the Board, expressing his urgent need for a contract for the 2003-2004 school year by the December Board meeting, and if not a contract, then a letter of intent to re-new the current lease by that Board meeting, with the actual lease to follow in January of 2003.

Hearing nothing further, he closed this portion of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Director Dohring moved approval of the minutes. Director Dickson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION ON PLANNING MANAGER AND STATUS REPORT AND DISCUSSION OF OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 25TH DAA PROPERTY

Public Comment – President Battisti opened the floor for public comment. Hearing none, this portion of the meeting was closed.

Report of Property/Real Estate Development Committee – Director Dickson handed out the sub-committee’s recommendation for the Board. The sub-committee would like the contract to be effective today, November 19th. Kirk Trost, with the Department of Food and Agriculture, is working on getting the necessary approvals from the State of California agencies.

Director Carr asked that the two references to 2002 dates in the Scope of Work be adjusted to 2003 dates. The error was noted, and changed.

Laura Lafler with LSA introduced her Phase 2 planning team and reviewed the scope of work for the next nine months, culminating in “something” that can be displayed at the annual Fair in August for the public’s viewing and input. The Board was charged with a homework assignment to be prepared before the next Board meeting for the Visioning process to begin.

The sub-committee made the following recommendations:

1. Receive LSA's presentation of the work program, planning process, schedule, and organizational structure.
2. Approve the Scope of Work, Organizational Chart and Budget as presented.
3. Authorize the Board Chairman to sign the final contract upon receiving the necessary State review and approval.

The Board discussed the recommendations of the sub-committee. Director Lugo asked how the mono-lingual Hispanic community would be included in the public forums. Bonnie Nixon, of PAM, stated that her team has bi-lingual members and can assist with this.

Vice President Abramowicz moved to accept the recommendations of the sub-committee. Director Lugo seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board thanked the sub-committee for all their hard work.

CONSENT CALENDAR

There was no Consent Calendar at this meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee – President Battisti appointed a Nominating Committee to report back at the December Board meeting with a slate of officers for the 2003 year. Directors Rodeno and Lugo were assigned to the Nominating Committee.

Director Cathcart asked that all Board members be allowed to give input on the decision for slate of officers for 2003. Interim CEO Joseph Anderson asked that each Board member who had comments and suggestions contact Directors Rodeno and Lugo in writing before the next Board meeting.

Finance Committee – Director Cathcart gave the finance committee report. Net loss of 2002 is projected at \$45,000, as opposed to the \$98,000 loss projected at the beginning of the year. Staff has managed the finances extraordinarily well.

Director Dickson moved approval of the finances. Director Dohring seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Personnel Committee – Vice President Abramowicz stated that the Personnel Committee would be meeting to review the Interim CEO for his annual merit salary adjustment before the December Board meeting.

Livestock Committee – Interim CEO Joseph Anderson and Director O’Kelly gave the livestock committee report. It was a heated meeting, discussing the merits of combining or separating FFA and 4-H for the purpose of the market show and showmanship.

Friends Ex-Officio Report – Director Carr gave the Friends Ex-Officio report. The Friends have been contacted regarding our social on December 17th. It will be at Pairs Restaurant at 6pm.

Charter School Committee Report – Interim CEO Joseph Anderson gave the report for the Charter School Contract Committee. There has been no progress to this point, though we are hopeful that something will be in place by the December Board meeting. Director Lugo would like to see if this contract can get on the fast track, similar to the LSA contract, at LSA. Two members of the Napa Valley Charter School Board in the audience echoed her wishes.

CEO/MANAGER’S REPORT

Discussion and Approval of 2003-2005 Strategic Plan – Interim CEO Joseph Anderson gave an outline of the proposed Vision Statement and overall Strategic Plan.

Director Dickson moved approval of the Vision Statements as presented to the Board. Director Rodeno seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Approval of Policy Manual – Interim CEO Joseph Anderson gave an outline of the changes to the Policy Manual.

Director Rodeno moved approval of the Policy Manual. Director Cathcart seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Interim CEO Joseph Anderson asked all Board members to attend the WFA Conference in San Diego in January.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the 25th District Agricultural Association Board of Directors adjourned at 3:13 p.m.

Paul Battisti, President

Date

Joseph Anderson, Interim CEO

Date