

2019 FFA Planning Committee Meeting

November 5, 2019

Attending

Milton Natusch
Elena Hovagimian
Dr Dave Hopson
Jim Pomeroy
Iris Pomeroy
Pam Berkinberger
Ryan
Harrison Griffin

Meeting called to order – 9:31 am

Secretary's Report – Accepted. Posted online.

Treasurer's Report – Dr Parker – See attached

Communications if any

Several thank you notes were given out and passed along to Jim Putnam and Gene Cassidy. Milt made a concerted effort to get them done.

Reports -

Donna Woolam – The Big E – Please see attached

Motion to accept minute. Seconded. Accepted.

9 Interns – Breakfast was a highlight – Interns – helped with various information. Moved with National Office around. Made CDE boxes. Results and information. We need to make sure to supply more projects for Interns to do. They wanted to do more.

Milton was mentioning that sometimes the role is to assist. You have to wait for things to happen.

Dr Parker – Needs to get the Tavern Bill for FFA luncheon.

Stars - no money from Farm Credit East – waiting to see if we receive it.

Milton and Danny's Report. Attached. Waivers are a problem. Need to make changes. National Officers is a problem. National is reluctant to send someone.

Need to find a new Dairy Handler Superintendent.

Forestry - George Lyman has a replacement.

Agronomy – need to purchase samples. We have a student teacher replacement. Dean Powers will continue.

Parly Pro – Krista pontus continuing.

Stars Report – It was noted that there was appreciation to Gene Cassidy for being prompt and allowing for Stars to start on time.

The Committee and ESE would like to see more electronic application submissions. Looking to add more in the future – for example - Job Interview; Prepared; Marketing.

Using Judging Card – need to make sure that there is a confirmation. There will be a fee, for the FFA program. It was better to handle the items.

Stars – More Judges are needed. Farm Credit East Ag Enhancement program is the funding. We do receive \$10,000 from them each year. We should commend them. NEW CEO for Farm Credit.

Online judging – No judges complained about any of it. Needs some fine tuning.

The parade – there was confusion this year. Circus tent needs some work on coordinating the back end.

Banquet – The planners for the banquet anticipate that several states will not be able to stay. Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut are there in a limited capacity. This allows us to accommodate those that wish to attend. The event is expensive to produce. It does include \$44 per person. Accommodations are tried to be met because of the limit. State FFA Advisor from New York is in charge. Derek Hill does a great job.

Illinois didn't know they could send people to The Big E.

Photo op at the Sheraton – Do we need a step repeat?

Milton offered Danny a Thank You,

National went to handing out a certificate. No more plaques. Plaques at The Big E are appreciated. The Big E pays \$8 for each plaque.

Prepared Public Speaking – Pam – went very smoothly. Judges are a problem. We need to get them secured a head of time.

Safe Tractor – Jim Pomeroy – went well weather was perfect. No Rain.

Job Interview – Would like to have another room. It would be more timely fashion. Went well.

Food Science – in a horse Barn - maybe evaluate the location

FFA Travel Stipend – Aaron from Cyclmer has applied and he was approved this year. Continuing.

Bus Pass – New information coming. We are hoping to automate the process. Be looking for new information

Declaration Page in the spring to match National FFA. Deadline of August 15 for all Registrations and Supplemental Materials. Dr Parker Motion Harrison 2nd

Exceptions of this deadline is Discretion of the Superintendent Amendment – EHovagimian 2nd by Jim Pomeroy

All approved.
Motioned Approved.

New Business –
Retirements. Same as in the past. Dave Hopson action. Jim Moved. Andrew 2nd

Election of officers – Dr Parker is looking for a replacement and is willing to work with them for one more year. 40 years is enough.

Election of Officers - Officers retained. Jim Pomeroy made the motion. Ryan 2nd.

Unanimously passed.

Next meeting date - November 10, 2020

Meeting Adjourned 11:04 am

Comments from the Director of Agriculture and Education
For FFA Planning Committee, November 2019

On behalf of the Exposition and the staff of the department I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all the folks involved with the 2019 FFA Activities. Your dedication of time and other resources is greatly valued by ESE. Milton, you did an amazing job this year and surrounded yourself with great people to get thru this.

As in every year the Exposition was very pleased to be able to host the young people chosen as interns. This year we had several state presidents join us as interns. As it is often hectic in the Ag Office upon their arrival, Milton and I met them for breakfast off site on Thursday morning, this has become one of my favorite events during the Exposition. I certainly enjoy the one on one time with the officers. The assignments we give them for the day are made with their specific interests in mind. As in previous years they represented FFA at the pre-opening ESE Media party. This was a great opportunity for them to see how the Exposition is working with local and regional agriculture producers to market their value added product. The interns had a great visit with our agriculture retail specialists who explained the history of the new Farmer's Market and what our goals are with the building. A repeat of 2018 but certainly interesting for the interns. I felt this year's group was particularly engaged.

On December 1st, we will remove from the outdated information and make any new changes required for 2020. Realizing that we have some Supt. changes this year it is important that those changes get to us soon. Changes from the Supt. should be made in Dec., so that by Jan 1, 2020, we may begin posting the 2020 CDE information. Elena will notify you 1 week before we remove your CDE so that you will have time to get updates done. Changes that come out of National can be made on the web as we are notified by the Supt. **I cannot emphasize the need to get this information to us in a timely manner.** I cannot stress the importance of this.

The electronic van and bus passes are working well, but it is difficult to be efficient with people that are tardy with request. Our staff works diligently to get these out. **PLEASE CONTINUE TO** work at getting these in on time. Elena will be revisiting this process with our admissions department this year to further streamline the process.

The Exposition was attended by over 1.6 million people this year, setting a record for attendance.

Though I can't be with you this year I am certain I have left you in good hands. I thank you all who serve on this committee for your dedication to this program.

Respectively submitted:
Donna G. Woolam
Director of Agriculture and Education

BIG E FFA Coordinators Report
November 5, 2019

- We had participation from the following states: Vermont, Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, Massachusetts, Virginia, Kentucky and New Jersey.
- Interns: Eight interns worked at the BIG E this year, they came from Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Rhode Island, Vermont, Massachusetts, New York and Virginia. Each did an outstanding job in executing their duties as needed. Danny Quinn, BIG E FFA Assistance from Connecticut was instrumental in getting many of the interns from the airport to BIG E and hotel as well as the National FFA Officer, Jordan Stowe.
- Online registrations: We continue to use Judgingcard.com for registration.
- Based upon Judging card.com The lowest participating events were Marketing Plan, Parliamentary Procedure and Agronomy with 5 teams each.
- We are currently looking for a Superintendent for Dairy Handlers.
- The landscape exhibits continue to be a highlight of the Farm-A-Rama building.
- There was maximum attendance at the Sheraton this year (725) which was great, but there is no room for additional students and advisors.
- Positive comments were received from the CDE Superintendents at the conclusion of their events.
- Doug Cottrill was hired again to run the computerized scoring process.
- State FFA Officer Assignments: Follow-up responses from CDE and LCD Superintendents were positive in State FFA Officers assisting with their events.
- FFA Workday the Saturday before has only had one chapter. The chapter was Northwestern Regional FFA, Winsted CT.
- Elena and Donna are to be commended, as well as others who provided assistance to the FFA at the BIG E. Their patience, dedication and hard work helped make FFA days a success.
- The banquet went very well this past.
- Laminate names tags were provided with lanyards to all CDE Superintendents, Asst Superintendents, state FFA Officer assistants and judges so they could be easily identified by students, spectators and others.
- Agriscience displays seemed to be a crowd pleaser and many general public people were observed looking at the displays and talking with the students.
- State FFA Officers were assignment to work with the Farm to Table booth in the Farm-A-Rama building and that went well also.

- Several issues developed for the BIG E FFA Star applicants in submitting them online. We need to continue refining this process for the Stars Program as well manuscripts for Job Interview, Marketing Plans and Prepared Speaking.
- Need to refine the wording on the student waiver form so it includes not only the student name but also state and the CDE/LDE they are participating in.
- Several Superintendents working at the Sheraton are requesting additional rooms and changes in their start time.

Respectfully submitted,

Milt Natusch
BIG E FFA Coordinator

Teams/Individuals Registered

| Event Name | # Entered |
|--|-----------|
| Ag Tech and Mech Systems | 9 |
| AgriScience Fair | 23 |
| Agronomy | 6 |
| Creed Speaking | 10 |
| Dairy Cattle Handlers | 24 |
| Dairy Cattle Mgmt and Eval | 9 |
| ENR | 6 |
| Extemporaneous Public Speaking | 10 |
| Farm Bus. Management | 8 |
| Floral Arrangement | 18 |
| Floriculture | 10 |
| Food Science | 6 |
| Forestry | 8 |
| Horse Evaluation | 9 |
| Job Interview | 8 |
| Livestock Evaluation | 9 |
| Marketing Plan | 6 |
| Milk Quality and Products | 8 |
| Nursery/Landscaping | 8 |
| Parliamentary Procedure | 9 |
| Poultry Evaluation | 8 |
| Prepared Public Speaking | 9 |
| Safe Tractor Operation | 10 |
| Veterinary Science | 9 |

Superintendents Report

ESE Floral Design/Landscape Design Competition

2019

Overview:

This year both competitions had excellent participation. There were seven landscape designs and 44 floral design entries. As always, a special thanks to Cornie and her crew for setting up the shelving and her efforts to resolve any minor changes in entries. I would also like to thank Donna Woolam for her patience and efforts in providing additional exhibit areas for the two additional landscape designs this year.

While it was encouraging to see so many schools desiring to participate in the two events, it did pose some problems. Advisors cannot assume that since they have participated in either event for many years that they automatically have a spot reserved for their students. We do not want to discourage student participation but at the same time, it is not fair to reserve a larger number of students for floral display entries and then substitute their names with others while there are students from other schools on a waiting list. I will make an extra effort this coming year to communicate this with advisors when submitting entries. As mentioned, Big E staff was more than accommodating in providing additional shelving for the floral displays and landscape design spots but we need to determine a practical cut off point. Currently we limit to 5 landscape designs and 35 floral displays.

As usual, both floral and landscape designs were exemplary examples of student work this year.

Recommendations:

- Increase allotted floral design entries to 40
- Increase available landscape design spaces to 6 yet maintain firm application deadlines. Big E staff will be notified in a timely manner if all six spaces have not been filled so that the space can be appropriately utilized.

- Themes

| | Landscape | Floral |
|--------|--------------------|-------------------|
| ○ 2020 | Colonial Landscape | Colonial Design |
| ○ 2021 | Aquascape | Beachcomber |
| ○ 2022 | Secret Garden | Down on the Farm |
| ○ 2023 | Garden Party | Fall Harvest Time |

Loren Andrews

Superintendent

Landscape Design/Floral Design

11/21/18

Mr. Milton Natusch
FFA Program Coordinator
Eastern State Exposition
1305 Memorial Ave
West Springfield, MA 01089

Dear Milton and Members of the Eastern States Exposition Planning Committee,
Sincerest thanks to you all for the wonderful retirement recognition letter and gift card! I can't express fully, how much your kind words and gift mean to me and how much our long association of working together for the good of New England Agriculture, Ag Education, the FFA and in developing New England's youth has meant to me over the past decades!!! Your kindness is so appreciated! I will use the gift card toward a travel cooler that Carol and I will use as we work our way across the U.S. (we plan to do a lot of site seeing as well as visiting family and friends).

It has been such a great experience to have worked with you all in advocating and developing agriculture's future in New England and I wish you all the very best as you continue to provide guidance to and development of our youth! I am so fortunate to have been able to work with all the efforts and events offered to our youth by the 'Big E' as well as those of each State Association, over the past decades of my tenure with the National FFA Organization.

Sincerest thanks, once again!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Keith", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kevin Keith
LPS Specialist – New England
National FFA Organization

BIG "E" FFA PLANNING COMMITTEE

Financial statement

NOVEMBER 5, 2019

ACCOUNT BALANCE

BALANCE November 6, 2018 44,964.38

GENERAL ACCOUNT

| | | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| RECEIPTS | Participation Dues (5 States) | 640.00 | |
| | TOTAL RECEIPTS | <u>640.00</u> | 45,604.28 |
| EXPENSES | 2017 CDE EXPENSES | 901.15 | |
| | RETIREE GIFT CARDS | 300.00 | |
| | Conn FFA Foundation | 200.00 | |
| | TOTAL EXPENSES | <u>1,401.15</u> | 44,203.23 |

FARM CREDIT ACCOUNT

BALANCE

| | | | |
|----------|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|
| BALANCE | NOVEMBER 6, 2018 | 20,817.38 | |
| RECEIPTS | FARM CREDIT SYSTEM | 0.00 | |
| | TOTAL RECEIPTS | <u>0.00</u> | 20,817.38 |
| EXPENSES | STARS TRAVEL | 7,250.00 | |
| | STAR WINNERS | 2,000.00 | |
| | B. HARRISON GRIFFIN | 15.70 | |
| | STARS LUNCHEON | | |
| | DISCOUNT TROPHY | 774.25 | |
| | TOTAL EXPENSE | <u>10,039.95</u> | <u>10,777.43</u> |

BANK STATEMENT September 30, 2019 37,662.26

CHECKS OUTSTANDING NOVEMBER 5,2019 3,498.98

Checkbook Balance November 5, 2019 34,163.28

Respectfully Submitted;

Keemeth A. Parker, Treasurer