December 5, 2023

The New London County 4-H Fair Board meeting came to order on December 5th, 2023, at 7:01 p.m. The pledges were stated. Introductions were done. Natalie made a motion to accept the secretary’s report as read, Padraig seconded, and the motion passed. There was no treasurer’s report. There was no business report.

Old Business

* Final nominations for Fair Board Mentors
  + Beef: Jim Holdridge
  + Costume Class: Heather LaDucer
  + Dairy: Arnie Nieminen
  + Dairy Goats: Emily Allard
  + Dog:
  + Exhibit Hall: Anne Staebner & Avis Hull
  + Explorers: Wendy Heydon
  + Facilities: Jim Holdridge
  + Gate: Arnie Nieminen
  + Hay Toss: Jim Holdridge
  + Horse: Maddie Hatt
  + Ice Cream Social: Tracie Hatt
  + Meat Goats:
  + Obstacle Course: Jen Rutke
  + Olympics: Marc Cournoyer
  + Pack Goat:
  + Pets:
  + Poultry: Christina Kettle
  + Premier: Marc Cournoyer
  + Publicity:
  + Pulls:  Brittany Guinan
  + Rabbits: Wendy Heydon
  + Rabbit Hopping:
  + Robotics: Jeff Heydon
  + Scarecrow: Meadowlake 4-H Club
  + Sheep: Christina Kettle
  + Swine: Brittany Guinan
* Olivia made a motion to accept the slate as read and for the secretary to cast one ballot for the slate, Padraig seconded, and the motion passed.
  + The secretary cast one ballot for the mentors’ slate.
* Discussion of unfilled superintendent positions
* Nominations for executive board mentors
  + Jim Holdridge, Fran Woods, and Anne Staebner were nominated.
* Natalie made a motion to approve Jim, Fran, and Anne as the executive board mentors and to have the secretary cast one ballot, Kailah seconded, and the motion passed.
  + The secretary cast one ballot for the slate.
* Reflection on Recognition Night and discussion of improvements for the future
* Reflection on the Food Show and discussion of improvements for the future

New Business

* Discussion of ACF dues
  + Jeremiah made a motion to pay the ACF dues, Alissa seconded, and the motion passed.
* Discussion of Fair gate prices and Fair dates
  + Jeremiah made a motion to keep the current Fair gate prices for the 2024 and 2025 years, Alissa seconded, and the motion passed.
  + Padraig made a motion to keep the Fair date as the second weekend in August for the 2024 and 2025 years, Jeremiah seconded, and the motion passed.
* Discussion of mentor and superintendent training day
* Discussion of changes to horse show structure
  + Lilly made a motion to split the horse show over two days, Abby seconded, and the motion passed.
* Discussion of Fair Board meeting incentives
  + Padraig made a motion to add the incentive of qualifying to go to the Superintendents party if a participant attends at least three-quarters of Fair Board meetings for the 4-H Fair year, Kailah seconded, and the motion passed.

Other Business

* Recognition forms for 4-H Conference and Citizenship Washington Focus due to county 4-H office by December 15
* UConn 4-H Sheep Day—Saturday, February 3, 2024
* County Public Speaking Contest—Friday, February 23, 2024
* UConn 4-H Dairy and Beef Day—Saturday, March 9, 2024
* UConn 4-H Goat Day—Saturday, April 6, 2024

Olivia made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m., Natalie seconded, and the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Heydon.