

Big E Planning Committee Meeting

November 8, 2011

Brooks Building

Present – David Hopson, Milton Natusch, Kim LaFleur, Ken Parker, Greg Breene, Janet Hammond, Norm Hammond, Kevin Keith, Jonathan Kaplan, Rick Martineau, Harold Mackin, Kaylyn Morrill, Dustyn Neslon, Harrison Griffin, Elena Hovagimian, Donna Woolam

Meeting called to order at 9:35 AM

MINUTES

There was one correction to the 2010 minutes. Greg Breene was added to the list of attendees

Motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Greg Breene

Seconded by Norm Hammond

Motion passes

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ken Parker distributed the financial statement. There are a few outstanding invoices, as well as several payments to be made. As of October 31, 2011, the account balance is \$26,486.48

Motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Ken Parker

Seconded by Greg Breene

Motion passes

REPORTS

National FFA Report – Kevin Keith provided a brief report on his experience at the Big E this year. David Miller, representing National FFA Alumni, was also in attendance. He was highly complimentary of the experience this year. Dr Steve Brown is planning to attend the Big E in 2012.

There was a recent change in LPS assignments. Kevin no longer represents Virginia and West Virginia. Those states will now be served by Frank Saldana.

Kevin is working with a group developing curriculum on alternative energy. The group is also exploring the idea of developing a CDE on the subject.

There will be a meeting of state leaders immediately following the planning meeting today to discuss state staff funding issues.

Big E Report – Elena provided a report on behalf of the Big E. She thanked everyone for their support. The interns provide a valuable role in media relations.

All 2011 CDE information will be taken down in December. Superintendents are asked to submit their changes to Elena, of any, prior to January 15.

Big E Coordinators Report – Milton distributed a summary report. Highlights include:

There were 4 interns in 2011 (CT, VA, VT, MD)

National FFA is using an online CDE registration system. Big E will have to go to an online system for 2012, as the support for the old Excel file will cease. Elena has been in contact with the same company that National FFA uses.

National FFA has made changes to most CDE's. Superintendent's need to examine their event to determine which changes will be implemented for the Big E.

The banquet was maxed out at 700 people

There was an issue with the Stars Program over qualification. Milton asked the committee to consider a change to the rules to allow the judges panel the flexibility of not presenting an award if the candidate is deemed unqualified.

Milton will appoint a subcommittee to review the general Big E CDE rules (distribution of original scorecards, placing discrepancies, etc.)

Janet reported that there is a handicapped accessibility issue with the Moses Auditorium. Elena reported that access is being addressed by the Big E.

Milton also reported that only one chapter has been participating in the work weekend prior to the Big E. Additional help is needed. He asked state staff to help spread the word for 2012.

Big E Intern Report – Kaylyn Morrill provided a summary of intern activities. The four interns helped organize the CDE Superintendent books and awards. They also attended several media functions.

Kaylyn suggested allowing more time for the officers to work together prior to the banquet. The overall experience was a very positive one.

Superintendent's Reports –The complete report has been placed on file. Highlights include:

Small Animal – the superintendent expressed concern on the official dress worn by students. She also had a question involving what to do if a contestant is injured during the event. Elena said that the Big E does have a first aid protocol. Milton and Donna will work to incorporate that into the Superintendent Handbooks.

Dairy Handler's – an Assistant Superintendent is needed

Livestock – the Superintendent and Big E staff would like to move the event to Friday. It will be easier to manage the event and secure help. Donna said the event would have to begin early in the morning.

Horse – the event moved to UCONN in 2011. UCONN was extremely helpful.

Forestry – Rick reported that Forest Park staff was very helpful. They have volunteered to help in 2012. He had a question from a coach whether or not lunch is provided (the event runs 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM). Donna said boxed lunches are provided for events that run all day.

Floriculture – Dustyn Nelson served as Co-Superintendent. He reported that a new Superintendent will be needed in the coming years. He mentioned that in the future the students will be able to review the ID materials and answers after the event in order to help prepare them for Nationals.

Ag Mech – additional tools are needed for this event (approximately \$100 worth)

Landscape/Floral Design – there were originally 7 exhibits. Only 5 set up. There will be 6 exhibits in 2012. The remaining booth will be for an FFA educational exhibit.

34 shelves were used for the floral design competition. Norm suggested splitting the monetary awards between the top three winners instead of small amounts to all who place.

Banquet – Norm complimented the state officers who assisted at the banquet. The biggest problem is getting the results from a few events over to the Sheraton on time.

Stars – Harrison reported that Farm Credit East provided \$20,000 to the Stars Program this year. There were 22 applicants and 18 participants. There was one very late application. Harrison suggested the possibility that late applications not be accepted.

The judging panel is always given discretion. The only result that is turned in is the actual winner, not numerical scores or 2nd place individuals. The panel felt this year that one of the applicants was not qualified for the award, even though they were the only entry.

Harrison asked for additional judges from different states volunteer for this event.

Harrison asked that the Big E provide a plaque to Farm Credit East to acknowledge their continued support over the years.

Stars Pageant – Milton asked for a volunteer to help with the pageant. In the past state officers have fulfilled this role.

NEW BUSINESS

Themes

Floral Design

2012 – Under the Harvest Moon

2013 – Only in the Kitchen

2014 – Garden Party

Landscape Exhibits

Conservation Gardens

Edible Landscaping

Birds and Bees

Floral Design prize money – there was discussion on restructuring the award system. Individuals present preferred to leave the system as is.

CDE Superintendent's Booklet – Janet suggested developing a Superintendent's Handbook. This document is needed to document the policies and procedures of each event in case a situation arises where the current Superintendent is unable to attend the Big E on short notice. Janet will work on a template

Ag Mechanics – Motion by Greg Breene to approve the \$100.00 request to purchase new tools

Seconded by Norm Hammond

Motion passed

Livestock CDE – Motion made by Greg Breene to move the Livestock CDE to Friday, time and location to be worked out with Big E staff

Seconded by Rick Martineault

Motion passed

Forestry CDE - Rick Martineault motioned to purchase 2 pop up shelters, not to exceed \$300, for the Forestry CDE.

Seconded by Norm Hammond

Motion passed

Motion by Harrison to purchase a recognition plaque, not to exceed \$100, to be presented to Farm Credit East

Seconded by Ken Parker

Amended by Kevin Keith to nominate Farm Credit East for the National FFA Distinguished Service Citation

Amendment passed

Main motion passed

Motion by Norm Hammond to have Milton appoint a committee to review general CDE and Stars Program rules.

Seconded by Harrison Griffin

Motion by Ken Parker to have Milton develop a list of items that need to be replaced. and replace them.

Seconded by Greg Breene

Motion passed

Donna mentioned there has been a problem with last minute parking and admission pass requests. Milton suggested developing a file that can be printed by the end user. Donna and Elena will explore this possibility.

Election of Officers –

Chair – David Hopson

Vice Chair – Jim Pomeroy

Secretary – Kim LaFleur

Treasurer – Ken Parker

Motion by Greg Breene to move the slate of officers. Seconded by Harrison Griffin.

Harrison Griffin suggested that each chapter participating in the floral demonstration booth be invited to bring a CD highlighting their school program. There is a TV and DVD player available to display these presentations.

Harrison Griffin volunteered to develop guideline document to be distributed to the chapters that sign up to staff the booth.

Ken Parker suggested that the booth also include a hands on demonstration for the general public, allowing them to make their own corsage.

Motion to adjourn by Ken Parker.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kim LaFleur

Big E Planning Committee Secretary

Next meeting November 6, 2012

2011 BIG E FFA Superintendents Reports

CDE: Small Animal

Superintendent (s): Melanie Sanborn, Wellsboro, PA

Assistant Superintendent: Cindy Chotkowksi, Storrs, CT

Available for 2012: yes

Budget Modifications: none stated

Materials used to conduct your event: Computer; practicum materials; printing of copies; need screen and LCD projector for next year.

Future: There was a concern about dress code at CDE events. Girls wearing FFA jackets too short with white blouses sticking out and black dresses with very long slits going upward. Is there a dress code and can we do anything to encourage proper dress at events?

Tables used had many staples in them and this was a concern with students doing projects on the tables. One student cut themselves on a staple and had blood everywhere. Did not have any bandages or other medical resources available. What should one do in the future when a student gets injured at an event?

CDE: Creed

Superintendent (s): Janet Hammond, RI

Assistant Superintendent: Deborah Went, RI

Continue next year: yes

Concern:

This year we had a handicapped person, who was the chapter advisor, there to see his student compete in the Creed CDE. The Superintendent saw no apparent access to Moses auditorium for the advisor to see the student compete. What would have occurred if the handicapped person was one of the contestants? This situation needs to be addressed before next year.

CDE: Environmental and Natural Resources

Superintendent (s): Ron Fredericks, PA

Assistant Superintendent: Renee Fredericks, PA

Continue next year: yes

Budget Modifications: None stated

Materials used to conduct your event: Test, environmental analysis scenarios, all forms, soil test kits, and water test kits, need to make sure there are 20 tables and chairs. Please provide a copy of the rules of the CDE in the superintendents packets.

CDE: Nursery/Landscape

Superintendent (s): Rebecca Rose, CT
Assistant Superintendent: Ryan Rose, CT
Available next year: not checked

Budget Modifications: none stated

Materials used to conduct your event: tables, chairs, extra lighting

CDE: Farm Business Management

Superintendent (s): Doug Robertson, Maine
Assistant Superintendent: John Bradley, Vermont
Available for next year: yes

Budget Modifications: none stated

Bus company needs to be reminded to be at gate 1 before 7:15 a.m.

CDE: Dairy Judging

Superintendent (s): Brenda Wildes and Erika Petersson
Available for 2011: yes

Budget Modifications: Continue with boxed lunches.

Materials used to conduct your event: Dairy judging sign, binders, and written materials for written activities.

CDE: Safe Tractor Operation

Co-Superintendent (s): David Lewis and Greg Breene, RI
Continue for 2012: yes

Budget Modifications: none states

Materials used to conduct your event: Big E tractors: skid loader, 4 wheel wagon, manure sprader, tent, 20 chairs; mulch/jersey barrier. Bart's trucking was great this year.

Stakes provided by CDE coordinators.

Future: It would be nice to have two tables with the chairs and tent.

CDE: Dairy Handlers

Superintendent (s): Cheryl Vest

Assistant Superintendent: None, need one

Continue next year: yes

Budget Modifications: none stated

Materials used to conduct your event: 40 score sheets, 1 clipboard, and 30 harnesses.

CDE: Dairy Foods

Superintendent (s): Dave Snyder and Bob Sieving

Available for 2012: yes

Budget Modifications: None stated

Future: It is essential/vital that dairy foods be maintained and unchanged, It has shown constant improvement and growth since Bob and I became superintendents. Need to encourage more participation from states and even allow two teams per state.

CDE: Job Interview

Superintendent (s):

Assistant Superintendent: none stated

Available next year: yes

Budget Modifications: None stated

Materials used to conduct your event: 1 room with 1 table large enough to seat four people. Room 2 – at least 4-5 tables for students to do applications and thank you's.

CDE: Marketing Plan

Superintendent (s): Gail Kiley Sanders

Assistant Superintendent: none stated

Available 2012: yes

Budget Modifications: parking covered at Sheraton for Superintendent and judges at hotel.

Materials used to conduct your event: screen and stopwatch

CDE: Parliamentary Procedure

Superintendent (s): Janet Rosequist, NH

Assistant Superintendent: Maria VanderWoude, NH
Continue next year: yes

Budget Modifications: None stated

If we have 7 teams or less we will need only 2 rooms at the Sheraton.

CDE: Poultry

Superintendent (s): Bob Lauffer
Assistant Superintendent: Neil Fellenbaum
Available next year 2012: yes

This event used donated broilers rather than purchase turkeys. Will continue doing this for next year. Need 10 large, two small and 12 chairs for this event in the Moses auditorium.

CDE: Livestock

Superintendent: Keith Shane, DE
Asst: Laura Marek, CT
Available for 2012: The livestock judging CDE needs to be moved to Friday to facilitate hiring officials and organizing the actual classes. This would relieve the burden on the exhibitors as there are no livestock shows on that day, and it frees up individuals to serve as officials. This move is supported by the BIG E administration and livestock superintendents.

Comments:

Continue bag lunches.

Materials used this year: neckbands; scantron, index cards for class names; exhibitor harnesses (8)
The event went well.

CDE: Horse Evaluation

Superintendent: Linda Corson, MA
Asst: Elsie Bornstein, MA

Available for 2012: yes

Continue boxed lunches. The new site at UCONN worked well.

CDE: Forestry

Superintendent: Rick Martineau, NH (rmartineauh@comcast.net)

Co-Superintendent: George Lyman, CT

Available for 2012: yes

Currently the Superintendents provide all the tools and equipment for the contest. There should be no changes for 2012. Need to have authorization to purchase two easy up canopies. Estimate \$150.00 each.

CDE: Extemporaneous Speaking

Superintendent: Tiffany Hoy, PA

Co-Superintendent: None stated

Available for 2012: yes

Budget concerns: None states

Need podium and two rooms for speaking event. 1 preparation room with table and chairs. The use of Board room this year was great at Sheraton.

CDE: Prepared Speaking

Superintendent: Kim Lefleur, MA

Co-Superintendent:

Available for 2012: yes

Considerations: Continue with parking reimbursements at Sheraton. Assistance Superintendent needed.

CDE: Floriculture

Superintendent: Charles Mavrelion, CT & Dustyn Nelson

Available for 2012: yes

Two Assistant Superintendents are needed with one to take over as Superintendent in 2014.

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CDE: Ag Mechanics

Superintendent: Doug Hammond, Tom March and Mark Burdick

Available for 2012: yes

Budget considerations: Need about \$100.00 for tools needed.

CDE: Agronomy

Superintendent: Steven Grower & Alyssa Grower. MI

Available for 2012: yes

No specific comments provided.

Landscape and Floral Exhibits

Superintendent: Norm Hammond

Need to order more ribbons: 1-15 for Landscape

1-7 for floral exhibits

Banquet at Sheraton

Superintendent: Norm Hammond and Janet Hammond

Comments: Need an assistant superintendent; Had scoring errors this year and did change the results in a number of events after the presentations were made.

Stars Program

Superintendents: Harrison Griffin and Harold Mackin

Comments:

No specific report received

Stars Pageant

Superintendent: One is needed

BIG E PARTICIPATION 2011

State	CDE's								
	Marketing	Mechanics	Agron	Nursery	Creed	Dairy	Judgi	Foods	Showing
CT	3	3	0	3	1	3	3	3	4
DE	0	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	4
ME	0	3	0	0	1	3	3	3	0
MD	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	3	4
MA	3	3	3	3	1	3	0	4	4
NH	0	3	0	3	0	3	3	3	1
NJ	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
NY	0	3	0	0	0	3	3	3	1
OH	0	3	3	3	0	3	3	3	4
PA	3	3	3	3	1	3	3	3	2
RI	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	3	1
VT	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
VA	3	0	3	0	0	3	3	3	1
WV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals team	12	27	15	18	8	27	30	27	

ENR	Extemp	Farm Bus	Flori	Forestry	Horse	Interview	Livestock	Parli	
3	1	3		3	3	3	1	3	6
3	1	0		3	3	3	1	3	6
3	0	0		3	3	0	1	0	0
3	0	0		3	3	3	0	3	0
3	1	0		3	3	3	0	3	6
0	1	0		3	3	3	1	3	0
0	0	0		0	0	3	0	0	0
3	1	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
3	1	3		3	3	3	1	3	6
3	1	3		3	3	3	1	3	6
0	0	0		0	0	0	1	0	0
0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
3	1	3		3	0	3	1	0	6
0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0
27	8	12		27	24	27	8	21	36

Poultry	Prepared	Vet tech	tractor	Stars		
3	1	3	1	3	57	
3	1	3	1	1	52	
0	0	0	1	0	21	
0	0	3	0	1	27	
0	0	3	0	1	46	
0	1	3	0	3	34	
0	0	0	1	3	11	
3	0	3	1	3	24	
3	1	3	1	2	55	
3	1	3	1	3	58	
0	1	0	0	0	7	
0	0	0	0	0	1	
0	1	3	1	4	42	
0	0	0	1	0	1	
0	0	0	0	0	0	
15	7	27	9	24	436	

BIG E FFA Coordinators Report
November 8, 2011

The FFA member participation this year was similar to last year and need to continue work in getting other states not represented at least participate in the Stars Program. I talked with several states and with limited staff and they indicated it is difficult to work with schools in getting them to participate. In several cases cost was a factor by local school districts.

Interns: Four interns worked at the BIG E this year, they came from Virginia, Vermont, Connecticut, and Maryland. Each did an outstanding job in executing their duties as needed.

Online registrations: National FFA has gone to an online registration process for CDE teams and the forms used by the BIG E will no longer be available for next year. Need to move to an online system for 2012. The bus vendor worked out very well and no problems were reported.

National Career Development Events are been changed for coming years. BIG E FFA Superintendents need to review these new changes and make changes as needed to keep our CDE's of high quality and comparable to National CDE's.

The landscape exhibits continue to be a highlight of the Farm-A-Rama building. We had five entries this year.

The floral design competition went very well and no problems reported. I would recommend going to a judging system of Gold, Silver Bronze and then the judges pick from the Gold the top three.

There was maximum attendance at the Sheraton this year (700) 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 and it appears.

Many thanks to the Jim and Carol Ogden for their expertise and dedication in getting the computerized results tabulated.

State FFA Officer Assignments: A much better job was done this year in scheduling officers at CDE events.

Several opportunities exist for assistant superintendents.

Getting floral corsage chapters to make corsages on the weekends is a continuing challenge. We also had a chapter make corsages in the evening and this worked out well.

There was an issue with the Stars program in determining one of the BIG E FFA Stars which resulted in a disqualification even though the Star area only had one candidate. If the judges and/or superintendent deemed it necessary to disqualify a candidate, this needs to be put into the rules that the BIG E Planning Committee reserves the right not present a Star Award for whatever reason.

FFA Workday the Saturday before has only had one chapter participate in the past and additional chapters are encouraged to assist.

There is a need to purchase some additional replacement flag poles to be used in the pageant (needs to happen!)

There was additional room next to the Floral Design booth this year and a FFA Landscape display was done by Dustyn Nelson, a Connecticut State FFA Officer. This display really made the floral design booth look great.

A TV monitor was placed on the wall behind the Floral design booth for showing special presentations. I am not sure of its effectiveness or use.

The Superintendents dinner was well represented by CDE staff and guests at the new location in the Italian Pavilion.

Cindi, Elena, and Donna and 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 year with the help of Norm and Janet Hammond, who coordinated this event.

Having the National FFA Officer one day earlier afforded the BIG E FFA program the advantage of having her attend the Springfield Rotary Club banquet as well as the Green Pastures banquet.

Respectfully submitted,

Milt Natusch
BIG E FFA Coordinator

Comments from the Director of Agriculture and Education
For FFA Planning Committee, November 2011

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 2011 FFA Activities. Your dedication of time and other resources is greatly valued by ESE.

As in every year the Exposition was very pleased to be able to host the young people chosen as interns. These young people are an intricate part of staging this program. As in previous years they represented FFA at the pre-opening ESE Media party. It has also been conveyed to me that the Green Pastures Committee is very pleased to have a National Officer present at the dinner honoring New England's outstanding dairymen.

Again this year, in December, we will remove from the website the 2011 CDE information. Changes from the Supt. should be made in Dec., so that By Jan 15, 2012, we may begin posting the 2012 CDE information. Elena will notify you 1 week before we remove your CDE so that you will have time to get updates done. It is our hope that Superintendents will respect this time frame and Elena's other commitment needs and get this information to her in the timeline stated.

The Exposition was attended by over a million people this year, an indication that The Big E is a premier production that, even in a challenged economy, is still a sought after venue of entertainment. It is our intention to provide our FFA visitors with this same sought after environment.

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

BIG "E" FFA PLANNING COMMITTEE

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

NOVEMBER 8, 2011

		ACCOUNT
		BALANCE
BALANCE	November 9, 2010	15,670.30

GENERAL ACCOUNT

RECEIPTS	Agrimark (banquet)	1,000.00	
	Participation Dues (7 States)	880.00	
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>1,880.00</u>	17,550.30
EXPENSES	2010 CDE EXPENSES	486.30	
	2011 CDE EXPENSES	651.80	
	TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>1,138.10</u>	16,412.20

FARM CREDIT ACCOUNT

			BALANCE
BALANCE	NOVEMBER 9, 2010		(6972.70)
RECEIPTS	FARM CREDIT SYSTEM	20,000.00	
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>20,000.00</u>	13,027.30
EXPENSES	STARS TRAVEL (18 Individuals)	1,800.00	
	STARS WINNERS (3 Individuals)	900.00	
	FARM CREDIT SYSTEM	5,000.00	
	1. STARS LUNCHEON	2,625.72	
	TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>10,325.72</u>	<u>2,701.58</u>
	Checkbook Balance November 8, 2011		26,086.48
	Checks Outstanding November 8, 2011		400.00
	Bank Statement October 31, 2011		<u>26,486.48</u>

Respectfully Submitted;

Kenneth A. Parker

Kenneth A. Parker, Treasurer