

Barnstable County Agricultural Society

Zoom Executive Board Meeting

March 24, 2021

5PM

Manager's Update

PPP LOAN: We secured an initial PPP Loan which was forgiven in February and we have a second PP loan to get us through until Solar construction starts. These Loans allowed us to continue operations.

SOLAR UPDATE: We have been officially accepted into the MASS SMART Program. Sol Systems is entering into a PILOT program with the Town as the Society will be pursuing also. As we already discussed there were many delays with Eversource which dropped us down to block five. Also, Eversource interconnection fees were much higher than expected. The big hit was losing parking lot #2 as the town did not want to tangle with the neighbor complaints. Now the good news we are still just shy of 300K a year. We are preloading the contract so we have enough capital to get us through another year if the Fair does not happen in 2021. Obviously, I can't even imagine where we would be without this project. We negotiated the upfront payment at the time construction starts which looks like mid-May now.

COVID-19: Presently we are a FREE Covid testing site on Tuesday and Friday's. The office is handling the registration process. We have had two vaccine clinics and expect to host more as vaccine becomes more available. Of course, our phones are off the hook some days just with people who have questions. The Town has been a great partner with preparations. They fixed the road coming up from the first aid building to the back of the Marketplace so it no longer washes out. This was thousands of dollars in savings.

PROJECTS: We continue doing projects around the grounds and the Main Office. Most recently replacing Mike's office floor which was down to wood and painting it. Soon we will be back outside with Spring cleanup and before we know it mowing. We did a lot in the Adult Building and will be painting that floor once the weather breaks. I am in a holding pattern hiring anyone at this point to help on the grounds until I know what the fate of the Fair is.

2021 SPECIAL EVENTS: At this point I have cancelled all events leading up to the Fair except for the Master Gardener plant sale on May 23. I am working with all the events in August, Sept and October to coordinate a plan with all of them to work around Solar installation as well as Covid -19 planning for their events which will get submitted to the Health Department.

2021 BARNSTABLE COUNTY FAIR: As you know we continue to plan for the 2021 Fair in the hopes that we will be able to have it. I have weekly conversations with Scott the health agent in Falmouth. We are waiting to see where we are at by the middle of April. Hopefully after 3 weeks at Phase 4 step 1, we will have a little better guidance from Governor Baker. There are many questions that have to be answered. The Mid-Way will have to submit a plan to the Town and State. I have been working with Harold and he is developing a COVID-19 plan for our Fair. The only way to at least break even is to have the entire 7 day Fair and a full midway. To get out of our Entertainment contract which was rolled over from 2020 it must be cancelled due to Covid. I am holding off on spending as little money as I can, and lot of things were already done leading up to the 2020 Fair. We will also need a plan for the entire Fair and I will be calling on the Safety Committee as well as key department heads to assist me with this. I am certainly a little more positive about the prospect of a fair in 2021 but looks like the variants are the concern now. Can't tell you how many calls and emails I am getting about the Fair and that Cape Cod needs the Fair!

Absence makes the heart grow fonder!

STAFF: The whole world has been rocked by this pandemic and we are no different. I just wanted to let you know how proud I am of this staff who continues to remain busy even if we might be doing things we thought we might ever do!

Wendy