

PYFA Board meeting  
Tuesday, February 4, 2014

The Board of the Pennsylvania Young Farmers Association met at the annual conference Tuesday, Feb 4, 2014 at the Wyndham, Gettysburg. The meeting was called to order by President Bob Corman at 8:25 am. (List of attendees follows minutes.) Opening prayer by Doyle Paul. In the absence of Secretary Caleb Wright, the minutes were taken by Edith Rhoads.

Dec. 27, 2013 meeting minutes were approved as amended. Bob commented to make sure minutes have attendees listed - no attendees were listed on the minutes from 10/11/13. Caleb will be asked to supply the attendee list.

Treasurer's report is printed in program book. Doyle asked if we had received the money from the PA Fair funds; \$2897.04 received. Additional \$3.76 received.

Membership report - Nothing back yet on dues. Edith reminded chapters about getting dues in early this year.

Linda Krall – PR Report – Applications received for contests are:

1 community service

1 Outstanding Farmer over 30

1 Spokesperson

4 Outstanding Agri-business

Deb arranged for judging of the Agri-business application. Linda asked for a volunteer to narrate the Agri-business award at the banquet. Ed sent a check for media blitz. There are concerns because of lack of contestants. Bob felt that young people are in the stages of education selection and have no time. Linda/ Deb mentioned sending spokesperson to National Institute instead of Ag Promise because National sends to Ag Promise.

Bob suggested a requirement on attendance for delegates – must attend a certain number of meetings.

AgChoice is a possible sponsor for sending our Spokesperson to National. Ag's Promise, YALE, etc should be for students above high school level because it is difficult if they are not matured enough.

A question was raised about a second award for Mifflinburg/ Lewisburg for hosting the conference last year. Brittney was to have a second plaque for the other chapter but Bob thinks it was never done, that Mifflinburg didn't receive one. This needs to be checked on. Both names should be on plaque.

No report from Dept of Ed.

Doyle- passed a thank you card around. He reported current student teachers 12 girls and 5 boys, the Face of Ag, a good group. Doyle spoke to them at Penn State about PYFA. Dr. Ewing talked about YF and Ag Industries. They continue support for our organization. Student teachers got off to a bad start because of weather cancellations and delays. No visit yet but everything is going well. Next year's group looks even larger. Movement to get employment outside of state so we lose graduates to other states. Penn State grads are in demand. Having to have Ag teacher with experience.

FFA record book judging this week (Thurs eve/ Fri.)

Doyle set up a Western Region meeting at Eat & Park, New Stanton, for new/ beginning teachers. Doyle visited all of these teachers. Doyle wants the Young Farmers board to get PAAE directories; Caleb is to bring them here tomorrow.

Summer PAAE conference will be July 8-9 in Derry School District, Westmoreland County. Doyle will forward to Nate an update of current thinking on the conference. Date and location are set for PYFA meeting July 8-9 but we would like tour info in advance.

Bob said the by-law change for FFA board members will be brought up for vote at the Delegate meeting tomorrow. Caleb will be prepared with paper ballots. Carl is concerned about having a quorum for the meeting tomorrow.

Deb Kammerer gave an overview of the conference. Today, tours in Hanover area-- RH Sheppard Engineering, specializes in parts for diesel engines. Ed Wilkinson got us into visitor center and tour of plant. Should take about 1.5 hours.

Miller Chemical, crop protection products. We will be back by 5:00 for dinner. After dinner, to Gettysburg visitors center where we will be met by staff and hear the Spokesperson speech. The Museum and film, etc. will be open just for our group. There are two options to see film at 8:00 and 8:30. Self-guided tour followed by an ice cream social in museum. Back around 10:00.

Wednesday - Delegate meeting in the morning, followed by lunch and three workshops. Everyone can attend all three. Spouses tour to depart 9:00 am; they will visit two historic homes and return around 4:30.

Dinner guests include five local officials, Dept. of Education representative and State FFA President, followed by award presentations and auction.

Thursday tours include Bear Mountain Orchard, talking about recent food safety certification requirements. BioEnergy- takes chicken litter from 10 – 12 barns, processes and uses to generate electricity. We will tour visitors center and overview of business and return for closing lunch.

The Spokesperson contestant cancelled so there will be no contest. Bob suggested we look at contests and responsibilities of officer positions. We have had a non-functioning Board this last year.

### VP Reports

Bill Zollers- Kutztown chapter meeting every Monday evening. Tour on behalf of potato growers in other counties. Sweetheart Banquet on Feb 14<sup>th</sup>.

A. Dale Herr- working on next year's convention. Hotel is lined up and three tours set, working on the fourth. Solanco holds an annual meeting for pesticide certification with about 150 people attending.

Carol Corman- reported regional meeting last evening was well attended. They held a Pesticide class, another one on new DEP regs., Lyme disease and Farm Service Agency.

Denise Leydig– they have held three county meetings. Berlin continues to hold meetings with average attendance of 38. They received funding from Snyder's of Berlin to continue YF chapter. Neutral location is chosen for County meetings.

Conference items – Deb asked about seating at the head table for tomorrow's banquet – visitors 8, Bob, Carol, Jason, Nate, and Chris Smith.

Linda had to leave for Media Blitz so the quorum was lost.

### New Business -

Officers Manual on website – Bob recommended board members read and be prepared to enhance and modify at next meeting – good info, more detail. Nice job combining. The PR person's

responsibility is to get press coverage and send news releases. During the change of officers, materials have been lost. Chris said that formerly there was officer training where former officers were called in to help.

Deb K. said we maintain the core, but it is not the same organization. Half as many register as 2005; many are gone. We need to stay current and relevant. She mentioned the Senior Project Award at Fairfield HS, young men (FFA?) work part-time for Getty Acres. Some are working on Service project with YF, one working Registration and one helping this afternoon. They need 30 hours each for community service. Is there anything they can do for State Assn? They could design publicity materials, a new display? Man the booth at Ag Progress and possibly redesign? Mobile Ag Lab – organize and schedule possibly fundraisers to support?

Bob suggested several items that need to be addressed - 501c3- lose things; Communication and consistency of policies; Inconsistency in books, payment policy - what is covered and not covered; Discuss procedure for mileage, the rate changes April 1. Conflict of interest needs addressed. The requirement for a second signature has been removed – needs implemented again.

Betsy received a letter from 2 DelVal students requesting donation for A-Day April 25 -27 to sponsor livestock show. Three possible options- \$100, \$50, \$25. Since there was no quorum, no action was taken but the board recommendation was \$100 donation. It will be retroactively approved at the next meeting.

Nominations – Nathan reported he still has openings for President Elect and Secretary. Jason Rentzel has agreed to accept South Central Region VP.

Bob closed the meeting @ 10:00.

#### Attendees

Bob Corman

Nate Jameson

A Dale Herr

Bill Zollers

Linda Krall

Denise Leydig

Doyle Paul

Edith Rhoads

Deb Kammerer

Betsy Huber

Carol Corman

Visitors- Carl Keller, Tim Rhoads