

PYFA Executive Board Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2015
PFB Building, Camp Hill, PA

Meeting called to order by president Dan Wilkinson at 9:05 am.

Those in attendance were:

Dan Wilkinson	Ed Zug	Debbie Zug
Linda Krall	Betsy Huber	Bill Zollers
Doyle Paul	Denise Leydig	Jessica VanGilder
Becky Nas		

Doyle Paul led us in an opening prayer.

A motion was made by Ed Zug to approve the March 30 meeting minutes. Denise Leydig seconded the motion.

A motion to approve the July 15 meeting minutes was moved by Denise Leydig with a second from Ed Zug.

An updated Treasury Report was issued by Ed Zug. Ed shared that the accountant had contacted him to sign a second tax extension back in August. He noted that the Fair Fund is due by November 15 and that he will sign it and send it to Dan Wilkinson to add his signature to be forwarded to the PA Department of Agriculture. Denise Leydig made a motion to move the report to audit and it was seconded by Jessica VanGilder.

A motion was made by Ed Zug to donate \$100 to the wrestling foundation that was stated in A.Dale Herr's obituary. Motion seconded by Denise Leydig.

Discussion took place about the request for a donation made by the Bucks County 4-H Livestock Team. They will be traveling to Louisville, KY in November. The request for money was denied due to the fact that there is not a PYFA chapter in Bucks County.

The Membership Report prepared by Mike Lowery was reviewed by Dan Wilkinson. He stated that all dues have been received except for Bermudian Springs, Blue Mountain, Derry, Meyersdale, and MidWest. These five chapters have only life members. Doyle Paul had spoken with Scott Myers, who stated that Bedford CTC will be sending in dues. Discussion took place about the need to send affiliate membership dues to National. Ed Zug offered to talk with Mike about who has or needs to pay the \$2 to National. We discussed the different levels of membership as there was question over how it is working out with National. At the state level, it is logistically difficult to keep the records straight on which dues levels have been paid by members. There was mention of talking with Denise Sanner at the December meeting about ways to simplify this issue.

Dan Wilkinson noted that John Walter, Mifflinburg, passed away in July. He was very instrumental in their chapter.

Debbie Zug and Linda Krall reported for public relations. Debbie stated that all display boards and picture packets have been distributed to all regions. Logistics need to be worked out with the Spokesperson contest winner, Taylor. If she is going to the National convention in December, and how she is getting there. The Business Person Award contest applications are due by January 10th. Linda reported on Ag Progress Days. She noted that the push pin map was a popular draw to people to visit the display.

Doyle Paul presented a report from Penn State. He handed out copies of two very nice reports. One prepared by Dr. Ewing that was shared with teachers that attended the Summer Conference in Tyrone, and the other prepared by himself that will be shared with attendees at the Fall PAAE Regional meetings. Doyle stressed that the time is now for ag teachers to encourage their students to enroll in postsecondary education. When reviewing PAAE conference planning, the popular choice is to have a mixture of tours and workshops for teachers and young farmers, alike. David Bitner, who is now the State Ag Teachers President, has been informed of our interest in regards to planning next year's conference. Young Farmers need to stay involved with the planning process to better partner with the teachers. Please let Dan Wilkinson know any thoughts or interests of topics or tours to incorporate during next year's summer conference that will be held in MidWest. Doyle continues to stress to teachers to utilize their local farmers and agri-business people to judge FFA CDE's, to be on their school boards and to serve on their school districts' advisory committees. Doyle mentioned that he is still working with Wayne Irish to establish a chapter in Coudersport School District, Potter County. Doyle reiterated that he is passionate about trying to get PYFA a presence at any other conferences that PSU may hold when there are agricultural topics with an Ag audience.

VP Reports

Jessica VanGilder reported that they had an educational display at two events over the summer. One at the Somerset County Fair in August and one at the Berlin Brothersvalley Community Fair in September. Doyle added that the Administrator of PA Fair Funds was in attendance at Berlin Brothersvalley and commented about how great the display booth was. It was titled, "Why is Your Grocery Bill So High?" He was very impressed with their idea and execution of display.

Bill Zollers reported on the upcoming winter conference. It will be held in Reading at the Historic Abraham Lincoln Hotel. They have four great tours lined up and some very interesting workshops planned

Betsy Huber gave her Executive Secretary's Report. She attended the PAAE conference in July, the most recent FarmLink meeting, Mifflinburg's 75th Anniversary, AgProgress, Council of Farm Organizations meeting, and participated in a conference call for NYFEA on 9/8. NYFEA is encouraging PYFA to get sponsors to send youth to Ag's Promise and the winter institute.

\$1500 would be enough to send one person to both events. We need to let national know who our delegates are for the national convention. They need to know by the next conference call.

Betsy sent a letter to Secretary Redding, nominating Jason Wolfe to the Farm Safety and Occupational Health Board. The Governor and Secretary Redding are really pushing workforce development for Agriculture. The Dept. of Ag has hired Scott Shealy, Lancaster Co., for the workforce development person. Scott contacted Betsy about meeting to talk about Young Farmers. She hopes that we can all capitalize on the opportunity to connect with PDA.

Betsy has two individuals interested in a Young Farmer chapter in Octorora School District, Chester Co. Doyle possessed interest in collaborating with Betsy to help get a program implemented.

Doyle shared that the Bureau of Career and Technology Education throughout the state is concerned about the preparation of students for projected employment opportunities. The top future ag jobs are farm manager positions and computer technology, working with equipment systems and GPS guidance. There are going to be ample job opportunities in the near future for these skills.

New Business

Dan received an email from a tour company in New York about setting up a meeting with PYFA and a South Korean Rural Development Administration (part of the Korean Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs) that is coming to PA on October 14th. They said they wanted to learn what PYFA's role is in this region. Dan checked with Chris Weller about the legitimacy of the request. Chris offered that normally when a foreign delegation comes, there are other groups involved. Doyle suggested sharing the info with Dr. Daniel Foster or Jim Diamond.

We made revisions to the Program of Work for 2015-2016. Motion to approve the new work order made by Becky Nas, 2nd by Bill Zollers.

Our next meeting date is set for Tuesday, December 29th at 9am in Kutztown at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel.

NYFEA Delegates Report

Pam Burning, current Secretary, is moving to President Elect
Fred Whitaker (MO), is becoming the Secretary

Meeting adjourned at 12:10pm. Motion moved by Denise Leydig, 2nd by Bill Zollers.