

54th annual Pennsylvania Young Farmer Delegate Meeting

February 5, 2014

Wyndham Hotel, Gettysburg, PA

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Corman at 9:37 am. Doyle Paul led the group in prayer. Bob Corman led the pledge of allegiance.

Caleb Wright called the delegates forward to be seated. **Delegates that were present** included:

Berlin Brothersvalley: Greg Croner and Leon W. Paul

Cedar Crest: Glen Krall and Thomas Herr

Gettysburg: Carl Williams and Jason Rentzel

Kutztown: Denise Sanner and Bill Zollers

Mid-West: Chris Weller

Mifflinburg: Stephen Kline

Penns Valley: Harry Wasson and Carol Corman

Shippensburg: Jeff Rohrer

Solanco: Samuel Glick and Betsy Huber

Bob Corman welcomed the delegates to the floor, thanking them for their attendance and support. He requested that all delegates please state their name and chapter before speaking.

Approval of the Minutes: Bob Corman mentioned that a list of all delegates at the last meeting needs to be added to the minutes.

Greg Kroner from Berlin Brothersvalley made a motion to approve the minutes as printed with the addition of the list of delegates. Glen Krall from Cedar Crest made the second. The motion was approved with unanimous vote.

Officer Reports:

The Treasurer Report was provided by A. Dale Herr in Ed Zug's absence. It is located on page 39 of the Program Booklet.

Carol Corman raised a question as to where the actual expenses of the Executive Secretary are located in the summarized report. A Dale will look into it and provide the group with an answer when available.

Jeff McClellan reported that in the actual report, it is broken out.

Carol Corman provided a motion to approve with the request that each expense be broken out of the Executive Secretary. Bill Zollers made the second. There was a unanimous vote to approve the motion.

Committee Reports:

Nominations:

Membership Chair– Edith Rhoads

Western Region VP – Denise Leydig

Eastern Region VP – Nathan Kreider and Bill Zollers

South Central – Jason Rentzel

Northern Region – Jason Wolfe

PR – Deb Zug will be primary individual with Linda Krall to assist

Treasurer – Ed Zug

Secretary and President Elect had no nomination.

Denise Sanner from Kutztown nominated Betsy Huber for Secretary. Tom Herr from Cedar Crest provided a second. Motion carried.

With the President Elect position open, Carol Corman made a motion to reconvene the delegate meeting at 4:30 to nominate an individual for the position. Stephen Kline from Mifflinburg made the second. The motion carried.

Resolutions were listed in the book.

Auditing: The report was provided to the secretary. The committee met and after a careful review saw no issue with the books. There were two recommendations that would make the audit easier to complete.

1. All financial reports need to list all accounts and CD's for audit along with accrued interest.
2. The computer ledger listed individual deposits especially under dues which is proper; however, the checkbook register listed a lump sum total which caused some confusion. The checkbook register needs to match the ledger.

Leon Paul from Berlin Brothersvalley made a motion to approve the report with a second from Jeff Rohrer from Shippensburg. The motion carried.

Budget: A Dale reported where all the items from the Executive Secretary's expenses were listed, all being listed in different categories. The budget was listed on page 39 of the program booklet. Discussion was held to talk about the utilization of the CD that is currently being invested for the use as seed money for the next National Institute that PA hosts. Linda Krall questioned if the motion to only send the \$500 of interest that is garnered from a CD to use for donations to other institutes is only sent to states that are hosting is being followed through. A motion to approve the budget came from Tom Herr from Cedar Crest with a second from Jason Rentzel from Gettysburg. The motion carried

A Dale recommends that we put the interest back into the investment, not into the treasury. Greg Croner made a motion to put the interest back into the investment of the \$20,000 CD. Stephen Kline from Mifflinburg provided a second. Motion carried

In the issue of the \$5,000 investment, previous minutes were open-ended. However, it was decided that the money is no longer in the treasury.

Bill Zollers made a motion to continue to donate \$500 to the states hosting the institute, being brought up to the board each year. Greg Croner provided a second. The vote was unanimous, the motion carried.

Convention Sites: Nathan Jamison reported that Solanco will host the 2015 Conference. There will be a preview at lunch. At last year's meeting, Kenny Sanner mentioned that he will discuss the matter with Kutztown. Denise Sanner reported that Kutztown will in fact host 2016. The officers encouraged the delegates to look ahead for 2017. Jeff Rohrer said that Chambersburg and Shippensburg will look into working together to host in 2017.

As a future host, Denise Sanner asked if the host chapter has the flexibility to move the dates of the conference to a weekend. After some discussion, Glen Krall from Cedar Crest made a motion to let the dates of the conference up to the host chapter. Jason Rentzel from Gettysburg provided a second. The motion carried.

Steve Kline moved to accept the slated convention sites (2015 in Solanco, 2016 in Kutztown, 2017 in the Chambersburg/Shippensburg area). Leon Paul from Berlin provided the second. The motion carried.

Membership: Edith Rhoads mentioned that the report for Life Membership accounts is on page 38 and a further report of membership on page 40. Edith requests that all dues be paid by March 31st to allow us to pay National Dues in a timely manner.

Leon Paul asked what happened to the dues of the Life Members who pass. He requested that as the money moves from the two accounts, that the money be further documented.

Carol asked if the individual from West Snyder had officially requested the change of membership. Bob mentioned that the individual must document, in writing, that they want a change in life membership.

Carol Corman made a motion to place the name of Life Members back into the original order, having them in the order they were paid, not by chapter. Jeff Rohrer provided a second. The motion carried

It was noted that Jeff McClellan is to be placed on the list of life members.

Greg Croner from Berlin Brothersvalley made a motion with a second from Denise Sanner to approve report.

FFA: No one present to provide a report.

FFA Foundation: Bob Corman reported that even with low attendance at events, they are still making money. They have been better utilizing storage space thanks to vendors they are currently working with. The golf tournament was successful for the Foundation again this year. All monies go to leadership development and State Officer expenses. Students who work for the foundation at events, the monies go back to the chapter.

Jeff McClellan made a motion to approve with a second from Harry Wasson, Penns Valley. The motion carried.

Education: Page 5 of the Conference handbook has the agenda for the educational workshops.

Constitution: There is a proposed change to the bylaws as recommended by the Board of directors as follows:

Remove Article II Officers, Section B Duties, subparagraph 9 from the bylaws. That article reads as follows:

9. FFA Members
 - a. The FFA is entitled to two FFA state officers to sit on the PYFA Executive Board as voting members.
 - b. They will serve a two year term with a new member appointed each year by the State FFA Organization.
 - c. They will advise the PYFA Executive Board as to all FFA functions and activities.

Chris Weller from Midd-West made a motion to accept the change with a second from Carol Corman from Penns Valley.

There was discussion, both in favor and against the change. Denise Sanner from Kutztown pointed out that the group needs to make the new individual feel welcome. Betsy Huber from Solanco felt that we need to include the FFA in the meetings somehow. Chris Weller's recommendation as the advisor is to remove them from the constitution completely. He feels that by eliminating this, the board can further identify a plan to establish ex-officio members from a larger pool of FFA members or young people that will hopefully be able to provide more of a commitment. A plan cannot be established in the time of this meeting, but we need to remove this from the constitution to allow the further development of this plan. Jeff McClellan called previous question. The motion carried.

A motion to accept the Bylaws Committee report came from Denise Sanner from Kutztown, with a second from Jason Rentzel. The motion carried.

PA Council of Farm Organization: The report is on Page 48 of the Conference Handbook. The council was active this year. The Cornucopia Event was cancelled the day before yesterday because of weather, but will be rescheduled in March.

There was a motion to accept the report from Jeff Rohrer from Shippensburg and Glen Krall provided a second. The motion carried.

National Delegate Session: Jeff McClellan. Denise Sanner was recognized as being the new President-Elect. The rest of the report is in the book.

There was a motion to accept report from Bill Zollers from Kutztown with a second from Jason Rentzel from Gettysburg. The motion carried.

Executive Secretary Review: Jeff McClellan reported that there is a lack of communication that needs to be solved between the board and the Executive Secretary. Betsy was asked to change how she logs her tasks. The committee recommends that she continue the involvement next year. Denise Sanner moved to accept the report. Jason Rentzel provided a second. The motion carried.

Technology: The report was provided in the book on page 48. If there are any suggestions for the website, contact Betsy. Bob Corman noted there is an officer manual now on the website.

Denise Sanner requested to be removed from being an administrator of the Facebook page. Caleb Wright will take care of that.

Tom Herr made a motion to approve. Jason Rentzel provided the second. The motion carried.

Past Officer's Meeting:

1. For the Spokesperson Contest, if you make the commitment, you need to follow through. There needs to be confirmation that they will be there.
2. The Spokesperson Contest is open to anyone. Age should not be a determining factor. The topic should be allowed to be determined by the contestant.
3. All members need to work to have the membership garner interest from the young individuals who can participate in the Spokesperson Contest.
4. Think outside the box when planning the conference. Don't be afraid to change it up and go outside the hotel. The group enjoyed being at the Visitor's Center.
5. Post items to the website. The board needs to continue to keep it updated and continue to increase communication with the chapters.
6. Be sure to stop by the vendors at the Conference.

Bob Corman requested the Secretary send a letter of thanks to Gettysburg, making special note of the special event last evening.

A motion to approve came from Jeff Rohrer from Shippensburg, with a second from Carol Corman. The motion carried.

Advisor's Report: Doyle Paul reported. He started by thanking the PYFA Board for taking one of their suggestions and making it a reality. Tonight we will recognize an Outstanding Agribusinessperson. Doyle was asked by Dr. Ewing and Dr. Foster to speak to the student teachers. There are 17 of them across the state. Doyle brought up to the delegates that anyone can be an advisor. He also addressed that many individuals feel that there is a large pull from the FFA Alumni, but there is always the PYFA to support those interested in our purposes. Doyle posed the question to the delegates if we are staying active and involved with the local FFA Chapters. He also reminded the group that our goal is education, unlike that of the FFA Alumni. Doyle thanked the Gettysburg Chapter for the great commitment to educational purposes of the Conference and the great time so far. The group also talked about building membership numbers. It is important that we take the time to make personal contacts. It is also important that spouses continue their work and dedication to the organization as we look to building members. Once again, it is very important that we recruit young people. As the Advisor is a key individual in the Young Farmer Program, do not forget about that it does not have to be the Ag Teacher. Anyone can serve. Doyle thanked the Advisors in attendance this morning. Doyle is supportive of the ideas that were discussed earlier for involving the FFA with the Board.

Glen Krall introduced their new advisor Jennifer Balmer whom Cedar Crest is excited about. Bob welcomed her and is excited to see the future of the chapter.

Steve Kline made a motion to accept the report with a second from Jeff Rohrer. The motion was approved.

Public Relations: Linda Krall reported. The Spokesperson Contest was yesterday. She thanked Weis for their continued support and involvement. They will be recognized tonight. Linda and Deb have some suggestions as to how to change the Spokesperson Contest. Thanks to AgChoice Farm Credit for continued support.

Except for the Agribusiness Award, there were limited candidates for each award. Debbie Zug is planning on attending this evening pending the weather. The Spokesperson contest was on the front page of the local paper today.

Jeff McClellan made a motion to accept the report with Jason Rentzel from Gettysburg providing a second. The motion carried.

No old business.

Denise Sanner is trying to get it approved by the board to do a fundraiser this week to send individuals to Ag's Promise. There are two people who may be interested in going if we have the funds. Denise has a case of wine that we will sell through a silent auction this week. Don't be afraid to buy, even if you don't drink wine. It is solely a way to raise some funds. Look for this later throughout the day. There is hope to send two individuals to have further representation from Pennsylvania.

At 11:47, a recess until 4:30 was called by Bob Corman. Upon the completion of the slate of officers, the meeting will adjourn at that time.

The delegate meeting reconvened at 4:33. With the nomination of Dan Wilkinson for President Elect, the slate of officers was filled. Jeff McClellan made a motion to accept the slate of officers as presented. Bill Zollers from Kutztown made the second. There was a unanimous vote in favor.

The meeting was declared adjourned at 4:36 p.m. by President Bob Corman.