

Wisconsin FFA Alumni Council Meeting Minutes

Tomah High School Ag Room

June 24, 2017

Time: 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

President Dan Follendorf called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

Motion by Brenda, seconded by Matt to approve agenda with flexibility.

1. Dan Follendorf welcomed everyone in attendance, asked that each of the attendees introduce themselves, share one goal that they have set for themselves this year, and tell what they have done so far to work towards achieving that goal.

2. Approval of March 25, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Herman Seebandt moved to accept the meeting minutes as emailed. Mark Ladsten seconded the motion. Motion passed.

3. Financial Report

Cheryl Steinbach referred to the profit/loss financial statement, which was distributed by email prior to the meeting. She also had binder of checks issued for review upon request. Motion by Bobbi Jo Kunz, seconded by Matt Damm to accept financial report. Motion passed.

4. FFA Family Reports

No representatives were present but Cheryl provided reports she received via email from Jeff Hicken, Cheryl Zimmerman and John Hromyak.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Marketing Committee – Julie Spoke absent, Cheryl shared information.
 - i. Please help gather any brochures so that they may be updated.
 - ii. Cheryl presented business cards to those present.
 - iii. No issues with shirts presented, we should plan to proceed with orders.
 - iv. Website updates are still in process. We have added a Twitter account “@WIFFAAlumni”. In addition, we have increased use of Facebook.
- b. Program Development Committee – Ellen Cary.
 - i. State Convention workshops went well. We had great participation from those who attended, and Eau Claire was very interested in revamping.
 - ii. Shared that the committee met this morning and decided to incorporate an Alumni workshop at 6 PM as part of SLW, in addition to the regular meeting participation with advisors. Candie Lehto and Bobbi Jo Kunz will be doing most of them so extra mileage will be required.
- c. Fundraising Committee – Brenda Franklin.

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- i. No major activity. We would like to be more involved with donations for state convention but do not want to reinvent the wheel. Herman Seebandt will get the list of contributors from his area to us, and we have some from this current group, so we will start to combine a common list.
- d. Finance Committee – Tim Spoke absent, Dan led.
 - i. Cheryl shared reports from Edward Jones. We have now signed up to receive them electronically so they will be easier to send to committee members.
 - ii. Cheryl had not been getting a second signature on checks issued to her, as she had not been instructed to do so. From this point forward, she will send to Dan who will send them back to her.
- e. Resolutions and Bylaws Committee – Cari Sabel
 - i. Group has not met since the new by-laws were just approved in February.
- f. Membership Committee – Ellen Cary
 - i. We are still short on sectional reps and this affects our quorum. By-laws group should meet to work on rewording as needed. Highlight words, majority of seated members.
 - ii. Affiliated membership is up.
 - iii. Lifetime membership needs to be promoted as an investment.
- g. Awards Committee – Larry Lader sent via email.
 - i. Applications are updated. Working on the tips worksheet.
- h. Statewide Convention Committee – Dan Follendorf
 - i. Discussion of contributions guidelines. We voted to change, but did not indicate when, so allowed past to be used.
 - ii. We need consistency from year to year.
 - iii. Committee needs to meet, as there are many issues to address. Roles need to be clearly defined.
 - iv. Still need to value the local input for each convention.

Motion by Nick Lowe, seconded by Brenda Franklin to take a 5-minute break. Motion passed at 11:16.

President Dan Follendorf reconvened meeting at 11:23.

Old Business

- 1. State FFA Convention – Dan Follendorf
 - a. Recapped highlights:
 - i. We were recognized as a Gold Sponsor. This gave us a ½-page ad in the program and Dan was recognized on stage.
 - ii. Dan gave a speech, included a plug for liking us on Facebook.
 - iii. Dan presented WLC scholarships.
 - iv. Retiring officers all bought their own blazers, with one exception. Cheryl provided them patches to put on, which they made removable with magnets. Dan and Cari presented them on stage

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- v. Mark presented our flag.
- vi. Dan received Honorary Degree and Regina was also recognized.
- vii. We had great interactions at trade show and answered lots of questions. Look at option of a free jacket as a prize next year.
- viii. Many PR opportunities and much appreciation was received.
- b. Recommendations for improvement:
 - i. Candie Lehto encouraged our involvement in the Administration session on Wednesday.
 - ii. Could we get a better time slot for workshops?
- 2. 2018 Convention Report – Cari Sabel
 - a. Updates
 - i. We are moving forward. The letters are out and brochures are out.
 - ii. Working with FVTC for Friday tours and barbecue style meal.
 - iii. Next meeting is August 5 at FVTC.
 - b. Concern regarding the change of sponsorship levels approved at last meeting and then not used.
 - i. Sent back to the statewide convention committee for review and report.
 - c. Discussion that we should be looking at a written procedure/policy for resignation of convention planning leaders. Statewide convention committee will also look at this item.
- 3. 2017-18 Committee Goals and Expectations – Cari Sabel
 - a. Groups need to be meeting and working on goals.
- 4. Leadership/Strength Finder – Mark Ladsten & Cari Sabel
 - a. This is on hold until more people can attend.
- 5. Open Council Seats – Everyone
 - a. Section 2 potential rep for the future, Michelle. Brenda has talked with her.
 - b. Bobbi Jo and Cheryl will inquire at WAAE
 - c. Maybe section 4 new state FFA officer could help.
- 6. Retreat – Cheryl
 - a. Discussion of attendance in order to have a quorum. It was decided to book one night, Friday, August 18 at Three Bear Resort for modified retreat, including time for committee meetings and games. Plan for a Saturday morning meeting.
 - b. Green Lake Conference center has contacted us regarding a winter retreat. We will discuss more at next meeting.
- 7. No Other Old Business was brought forward

Broke for lunch. Thanks Dan for the pulled pork sandwiches. They were delicious.

New Business

- 1. RDC – Dan Follendorf
 - a. We need to look at ADC policy and redo to cover RDC. Suggested we create it to be universal for any training workshops.
 - b. We were contacted by Nationals to host a 2018 RDC.
 - i. Decided to look into fall near Madison.

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- ii. Cheryl will begin process and contact nationals.
- 2. Farm Technology Days – Everyone
 - a. Cheryl will have the stuff to Cheryl Zimmerman for set up. Space is limited so we will not be able to take much. She will coordinate with Jeff Hicken also.
 - b. Workers should be receiving confirmation of times and tickets from Jeff.
- 3. WAAE PDC – Cheryl
 - a. Cheryl attending to meet with new state officers and give report to agriculture educators.
 - b. She will have booth set up for Monday morning. Ken Natzke will attend in AM and Bobbi Jo Kunz in PM.
 - c. Motion by Nick Lowe, seconded by Mark Ladsten to purchase a \$ 50.00 money card as an incentive door prize for the large drawing. Motion passed.
 - d. Cari Sabel also made up a neat gift basket, which we will use for an additional incentive prize at the booth for those who sign in.
 - e. Cari Sabel is planning to attend the banquet.
- 4. National Leadership Convention – Cheryl
 - a. Our delegate count is down with the new proposal passed last year, though our membership is up.
 - b. Ron Lynch has contacted up to co-sponsor a proposal to modify the new process. The proposal would guarantee each state two votes, but would assist our numbers. Motion by Candie Lehto, seconded by Matt Damm to Co-sponsor Delegate Bylaw amendment with Illinois. Motion passed.
 - c. Cheryl will be in charge of delegate registration process and needs to find out deadline. There will be 27 names needed for seats.
 - d. No one indicated a need for hotel rooms.
- 5. Motion by Cari Sabel, seconded by Herman Seebandt to purchase new Alumni flag with new logo. Motion passed.
- 6. Membership Changes – Cheryl
 - a. Total this year is 15551 compared to 9819.
 - b. Distributed lists of active chapters and their membership, as well as chapters that have only lifetime and associate members.
 - c. We should look at reaching out for 2017-18 to each chapter.
 - d. There is a new contact person now to help with reimbursement of funds for lifetime memberships, as Phyllis's position was eliminated.
 - e. Newsletters are a challenge, to put it mildly. There will be a PDF attachment letter emailed at this point. Cheryl will continue trying to find the best avenue.
- 7. Grants – Dan
 - a. We currently have two options. We should review those in the future.
 - b. Motion by Brenda, seconded by Brian to approve grant request for Berlin, new chapter fundraiser assistance. Motion passed.
- 8. Resignation Policies – Cheryl
 - a. This needs to be looked at by Policy committee.
 - b. We can contact Regina for information of past practice.
- 9. Charity License – Cheryl

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- a. Larry Lader has brought to our attention that we should be filing for a license.
- b. Discussion of federal vs state. Cheryl will investigate further. It was agreed to pay if need be. Motion by Mark Ladsten, seconded by Candie Lehto to pay fee if applicable. Motion passed.

10. Other New Business – Dan

- a. Motion by Cari Sabel, seconded by Mark Ladsten to reimburse mileage for additional section leadership workshop participation. Motion passed.
- b. Motion by Herman Seebandt, seconded by Mark Ladsten, to rescind convention sponsorship levels established in March and send it back to statewide convention committee. 2/3 vote needed since it was not an agenda published item. Motion passed 12 – 0.

11. Adjourn. Motion by Mark Ladsten, seconded by Brian Buchholz to adjourn. Passed at 2:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Steinbach

Executive Director