

61st Annual Pennsylvania Young Farmers Delegate Meeting
February 2, 2022
Wyndham Garden Hotel
2000 Loucks Road York, PA

Meeting called to order by PYFA President Ken Sanner at 9:30am.
Dale Hawkins offered the opening prayer.
Bob Pardoe is serving as the Parliamentarian.

Seating of the Delegates:

Berlin Brothers Valley- Denise Leydig, Keith Leydig
Cedar Crest- Glen Krall, Linda Krall
Gettysburg- Dan Wilkinson, Larry Wilkinson
Kutztown- Bobby Tercha, Grace Hoppes
Lewisburg- Bob Pardoe, Irvin Reynolds
Mifflinburg- Anthony Dietrich, Dennis Wolfe
Shippensburg- Jeff Rohrer
Solanco- Samuel Glick, Debbie Zug

One correction was noted to the Delegate meeting minutes from February 5, 2020. The Cedar Crest Delegate spelling of Ray Doutrich should be corrected. Dennis Wolfe moved a motion to approve the corrected minutes, Jeff Rohrer seconded, minutes approved as corrected.

Ed Zug reviewed his Treasurer's Report found on page 34 of the convention booklet. Ed explained the 2021 convention cost line item even though there was no convention held in 2021. Ed stated that there were non-refundable deposits made prior to the start of covid. Ed continues to apply for Fair Funds through the November application process for funds that are distributed the following year. Following no further questions, the treasurer's report is filed for audit.

PYFA 2022 Officer nominations were reviewed

President- Becky Nas
Past President- Ken Sanner
President Elect- Michelle Dietrich
Treasurer- Ed Zug
Secretary- Anthony Dietrich
Executive Secretary- Betsy Huber
Membership- Debbie Zug
Public Relations- Denise Leydig
Northern VP- Matt Dersham
SouthCentral VP- Jason Rentzel
Eastern VP- Dale Hawkins
Western VP- Keith Weimer

Michelle Dietrich nominated Matt Dersham for Northern VP, Denise Leydig moved to close nominations for Northern VP, Glen Krall seconded, nominations closed. Michelle Dietrich nominated Anthony Dietrich for Secretary. Denise Leydig moved to close nominations for Secretary, Dennis Wolfe seconded, nomination closed. Denise Sanner gave a brief overview of the Public Relations position. Denise explained the responsibilities of handling the contest submissions and media blitz for the conference as well as managing activity on the Facebook page. Jeff Rohrer moved a motion to keep Denise Sanner and Linda Krall as acting Public Relations officers, motion failed. Denise Leydig nominated herself for Public Relations, Keith Leydig moved to close nominations for PR, Anthony Dietrich seconded, nomination closed. Bob Pardoe moved a motion for the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot of the full slate of officers, Dan Wilkinson seconded, motion carried.

Resolutions on page 33 of the conference booklet were reviewed. Denise Sanner offered explanation to item #6 referencing the NGA3 program. Denise will head off the committee at the state level to help support this new mission of helping the Next Generation Activated Agricultural Advocates. Michelle Dietrich moved a motion to accept resolutions, Linda Krall seconded, motion carried.

Jason Rentzel reported on Auditing and reported that everything is accounted for.

Ed Zug reviewed the budget on page 34 of the conference booklet. Ed further explained the Institute CD money- it was placed in a 6 month money market account at a .06% introductory interest rate. Ed will check on available rates at the end of that term to see if there is any better earnings available and move if necessary. Jeff Rohrer moved to accept the budget as printed, Linda Krall seconded, motion carried.

Convention sites were reviewed. 2023 will be held in Gettysburg, 2024 will be held in Mifflinburg. Discussion was held on keeping the Tuesday- Thursday convention format. A Thursday-Saturday format was mentioned. The Delegates support modifications to the convention structure as it deems necessary to the tour site host chapter.

Debbie Zug reviewed her Membership report on page 35 of the convention booklet. Deb had one correction to the chart and asked the group to add in a 16 for total state members for the Gettysburg chapter to bring the TOTAL total state members from 575 to 591. Deb noted that of the 23 chapters, 12 are active and 11 are inactive. The group discussed how the loss of advisors has contributed to chapter inactivity. Members are encouraged and needed to step up and lead their local chapter organizations. Debbie has distributed many of the dues packets and will mail the remaining to chapters not present at the convention.

The FFA Report was presented by current FFA President Abigail O'Neill and VP Greg Gipe. Abigail shared that the state theme for this year is "Embrace" and provided highlights from this past January Mid- Winter Convention. Abigail stated that there were about 5000 in attendance at the Mid- Winter Convention with 368 Keystone Degree Recipients. 500 FFA members will attend ACES over the course of three weekends in February and March brings their SLLC event

(State Legislative Leadership Conference). The spring is sure to be a busy banquet season and June will host a convention at Penn State. Greg added that they are working to build a more broad curriculum which will in turn support member growth. Abigail entertained questions about how they handle social media platforms. Abigail noted that they ran a successful “Behind the Jacket” series on social media as well as forming “coup groups” to Zoom and text within the chapters.

Sarah Sparks provided updates from the FFA Foundation. Sarah thanked PYFA for their continued sponsorship of the golf outing. Sarah noted their attendance with food concessions at Ag Progress and Farm Show. Sarah added that they picked up a sponsorship from Rural King retailer. The investment account was overviewed and Sarah outlined the gains that have been accrued over the last several years. Fulton Bank handles the account and with the shift in the markets are looking to switch the investments into a more conservative portfolio. 4% will continue to be pulled to support the annual PYFA scholarship. February 19-26 will host FFA week. They have picked up a new sponsor in Farm Credit and will run a Give FFA day on February 24. Proceeds of Give FFA will be used towards leadership conference costs.

Ken Sanner overviewed pages 7 and 8 of the booklet to highlight the educational workshops planned for the afternoon.

No changes to the Constitution and Bylaws.

PA Council of Farm Organizations was reviewed by Betsy Huber and Bob Pardoe. Betsy noted that there have been meetings via online and conference calls. The Cornucopia event did not happen because the Capitol Building is still closed.

Denise Sanner reported on the National Delegate Sessions and highlighted the recent NYFEA Institute held in Ft Wayne, IN starting on page 42 of the conference booklet. Denise reported that Ags Promise will take place in Washington DC on March 6-8 and provided a preview of the NYFEA Institute for December 2022 to be held in New Orleans, LA. The theme for the Institute is “Bring One More” and registration is open!

Becky Nas reported on Management and states that the work of Executive Secretary Betsy Huber is invaluable to the association.

Betsy Huber reported on Technology. Betsy asks for chapter news from all chapters. Betsy requests help with the Facebook page as she wants it to be more active but doesn't have the additional time to put towards it. Betsy has received two scholarship applications so far. Betsy addressed and apologized for the fall newsletter name/ mailing address mishap. Betsy highlighted the NYFEA coverage on the website and continues to ask for material for the newsletter as it is only as good as the information that she receives.

There was no past officers meeting. No new information to discuss. The group recommends using any school board contact one might have to find support for adult programs.

Denise Sanner and Linda Krall overviewed the spokesperson contest with contestant, Greg Gipe. Denise and Linda encouraged award submissions for the 2023 Wednesday evening awards banquet.

Dr. John Ewing shared updates from Penn State University. Dr. Ewing stated that the Department of Extension Education is now fully staffed with the hiring of Christopher Davis who filled Chris Wellers position. The department has 3 full time, 2 program managers and 1 admin staff. Mr. John Seaman working with PAAE Executive Committee, Carole Fay handling supervised ag experiences, Dr. Daniel Foster, and Dr. Kevin Curry is currently working with 14 student teachers. Mike Brammer is serving on the Ag Ed Commission with Dr. Curry.

Jeff Rohrer of Shippensburg offered to connect with the Chambersburg chapter to boost activity.

The schedule on page 4 was reviewed and announced that PDA Deputy Secretary Hostetter will join in with updates at the luncheon.

A motion to adjourn was moved by Jeff Rohrer at 11:20am, seconded by Denise Leydig, meeting adjourned.

Minutes prepared by PYFA Secretary Becky Nas