

PYFA Board Meeting
February 4, 2019
Best Western Plus, Lewisburg, PA

Meeting called to order at 8:18am by PYFA President Jason Rentel.

Those present were: Jason Rentzel, Ed Zug, Deb Zug, Lizzie Bailey, Jennie Balmer, Steve Kline, Judy Croner, Denise Leydig, Ken Sanner, Betsy Huber, Denise Sanner, Dan Wilkinson

Steve offered the opening prayer

Ed Zug moved a motion to approve the December board meeting minutes as written, Ken Sanner seconded. Motion carried.

Betsy Huber shared her Executive Secretary report. Betsy stated that she had been using her time to prepare the convention booklet. Penn State has covered the cost of the printing of the convention booklet. The bill was \$270 to print 100 booklets. A thank you was received from the FFA Foundation for PYFA sponsoring a \$250 golf hole in their tournament. An invitation to attend the annual CTE Celebration Dinner was received. Last year Lizzie Bailey attended to represent PYFA and commented that it was very worthwhile. This years banquet will take place on February 14th. Betsy received an email from an ag teacher in Florida. They will be visiting Ohio, Western PA, New York and Canada on June 18-27, 2019. They are requesting recommendations for farms that they could tour. Betsy will pass on the contact to Western VP Judy Croner and Sam Dively. Betsy stated that they PYFA website has the NYFEA registration and promo video uploaded.

Ed Zug shared his Treasurer's report. Ed stated that the PA Council of Coops dues are due. PYFA will need to designate a person to attend to represent the organization.

Deb Zug shared her Membership report. Deb stated that all 2019 dues packets have been mailed to the chapters. Deb received a membership check from a person at the state level. Deb is requesting input because he is not tied to a local chapter. She is inquiring about a bylaw change about adding an affiliate or associate membership at the state level so that they can attend conferences but wouldn't be a voting member. Deb stated that she never did receive 2018 dues from Gettysburg or Red Lion. This would mean only state life members will be eligible to vote in the delegate session. Only state life members will continue to receive state newsletters.

Jennifer Balmer shared her Public Relations report. Jennie shared that her Spokesperson contestant, Justin Kurtz, will be presenting his speech at the board meeting because he had to be back to PSU by the evening. Jen has one Over 30 contestant and one Agribusiness contestant.

VP Reports-

Norther VP, Steve Kline stated that the convention is ready to go! No regional meeting is planned because of all of the time and efforts it had been taking to plan the current conference.

Western VP, Judy Croner shared that Berlin has their 2019 schedule planned. Their weekly meetings have started and will continue through April. Judy expressed her desire to resign however has not been successful in finding a replacement, referring to Article 4, Section B of the bylaws. Judy will continue to email in reports and can phone in to board meetings as her time permits.

Eastern VP, Ken Sanner reported that Kutztown has been holding winter meetings through March. Their recent meeting was with a drone company out of Carlisle, PA. Their regional meeting will be held on March 13 beginning at 5pm. They will be meeting at Kauffman's Chicken and hosting John Berry and Tara Caton to give educational presentations. All are invited and RSVPs are requested.

2019 Slate of officers are as presented: President, Lizzie Bailey, Past President, Jason Rentzel, President Elect- Vacant, Executive Secretary, Betsy Huber, Secretary, Becky Nas, Treasurer, Ed Zug, Membership, Deb Zug, Public Relations, Jennifer Balmer, Northern VP- Steve Kline, Eastern VP- Ken Sanner, Western VP- Judy Croner, South Central VP- Vacant

A question was called about how many are in attendance at the current conference. Steve stated that there are right around 70 people registered. Denise Sanner commented that number is consistent with most other states- running at 10% of state membership. (PA has a membership base of 760)

A suggestion was made to incorporate more media. PCN could be contacted to broadcast happenings. Question was called as to how we can fulfill our mission as school districts discontinue to support our organization? Lizzie suggested attending local and high school educational events if this isn't already a current practice.

2020 PYFA winter conference will be held in Cedar Crest. A request was received from the York Tourist Bureau. This could be an option for a state run conference for 2021. Betsy will find the contact information from the email.

Ken Sanner suggested that the board present a name change to the delegates. Other states and associations are taking this route in an effort to draw membership. South Carolina was just one of these states. They have now adopted "South Carolina Farmer and Agribusiness Association". Ken moved a motion to present 3 name suggestions to the delegates, Steve Kline seconded. Motion carried. The three suggestions are: "Pennsylvania Farmer and Agribusiness Association", "Pennsylvania Agriculture Education Association", "Pennsylvania Adult Farmer Education Association". It should be each local chapters own decision to keep or change their

name. Ed Zug will have to check with Pennsylvania Department of Education and with PYFA's lawyer to see what all a name change will entail.

A suggestion was made to add a program like the National Young Ag Leaders Program at the state level.

A proposal to change the bylaws regarding membership options is requested by Dan Wilkinson and Betsy Huber. The proposal regards Article III, Section F and is as follows:

“Any individual interested in or actively engaged in farming or other related agricultural occupation or education should be entitled to become a state associate member but shall not be entitled to vote at an annual fee of \$15.”

Ed Zug moved a motion for the board to recommend the bylaw change for the approval of the delegates. Judy Croner seconded. Motion carried.

2019 NYFEA Institute planning meeting will take place at 3:45pm on 2/4.

The next PYFA board meeting will be held on March 31, 2019, 12 noon at the Hoss's in Carlisle. Judy requests using DUO to call her into the meeting.

Judy moved a motion to adjourn at 11:06am, Ed seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Becky Nas, PYFA Secretary.