

WATERFPRD FFA ALUMNI MEETING MINUTES

The March alumni meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by Pres. Justin Ehrhart at the 'Cotton Exchange' restaurant (upper dining hall) in Waterford, WI.

Pres. Ehrhart welcomed everyone & the 'Pledge of Allegiance' was said.

There were 12 alumni members, 8 chapter students & 1 guest present.

FFA officers gave an update on student news & activities as follows:

1. The tractor restoration group is still working on the 1045 Farmall H tractor.
2. Proficiency award applications were due on March 2, 2023. There are 14 students applying for various awards.
3. On Fri., February 17, 4 juniors from the chapter attended workshops at the Farm Forum in Wisconsin Rapids.
4. On Wed., March 8, 32 students will be in Janesville, WI for CDE's.
5. On Thurs., March 16, students will be in Platteville, WI for CDE's.
6. National FFA week was held on Feb. 20-24. Our chapter had dress up days & activities throughout the week. We collected basic need items for TLC & raised \$230.00 for Kailinn Wilkens selling bracelets.
7. On Fri., March 10 we will be having a family game night with 16 eighth graders. We will have games & food.
8. On Sat., March 11, 30 students will be attending the PBR rodeo at Fi-Serv Forum in Milwaukee.
9. Maya Moczynski gave a presentation on her SAE Grant project, which is her beef project. This is her 3rd year in the project. She needs a few more tools to accomplish her project with her black-angus steer. She is looking for money for halters, show supplies, divider, fix the flooring, hair care items & fees for her show entries. Her goal this year is to win her class & showmanship at the fair & other shows. The alumni members will go into closed session after the meeting to discuss the grant money for Maya's project.

The Vice-President (Tracey Schaal) gave a report on the State Alumni Convention that she, her husband, Greg, & 6 other attended in Waukesha, WI on Feb. 3-4. She said it was a good convention & the workshops were very good.

The secretary's (Eileen North) report/minutes were sent out to all alumni members prior to tonight's meeting for all to read over. A motion was made by Julie Rusk & seconded by Michelle Chart to accept the secretary's report.

The treasurer's (Teri Eulgen) was not present tonight. Pres. Ehrhart gave her report as follows: we currently have \$24,786.85 in the checking acct., \$5,380.46 in the scholarship fund, \$5,028.36 in the CD & \$20.00 in the Venmo/Pay Pal acct., all of which are at Community State Bank. A motion was made by Gary Beck Jr. & seconded by Kevin Ehrhart to accept the treasurer's report.

Reporter (Kathy Skorstad) was not present tonight but Mr. Wicks stated that he & Kathy are working on the alumni website.

Historian (Julie Rusk) stated that Mr. Wicks has given her some information & she is organizing it.

OLD BUSINESS:

Our alumni craft fair chairperson, Joni Beck, was not present tonight for a final financial report on the craft fair, but the secretary gave a final report as follows: total income was \$3521.00 less expenses of \$1,501.94 for a net profit of \$2019.06.

The State FFA Alumni Convention was held on Feb. 3-4 at the Milwaukee Marriott West in Waukesha, WI. As previously stated in the Vice-Pres. report, there were 8 alumni members that

attended. Tracey said the workshop on communication was very good. Greg attended the workshop on St. Vincent High School, the only high school in Milwaukee that has an ag program & is doing very well with it. Julie Rusk attended one workshop in regards to grants, mentoring & membership. She said that we can get grants from the state for tractor restoration, that the state is doing a mentoring program for new ag teachers & that if you are a lifetime alumni member you can receive a discount on tires at Firestone & TSC. Another workshop was on social media (Facebook, Instagram, Canva) & that all alumni officers should post information of their affiliate activities in any social media platform. All those that attended the workshops found them very interesting & informative. The basket that Julie made for the auction from our affiliate was sold for about \$375.00. We purchased a basket at the Fri. auction for \$100, which included coffee, maple syrup, cheeses, mug, mustard, pretzels, crackers, honey, tea & a few other items. We also bought a metal cow sculpture statue & an apple strudel at the Sat. auction for \$475.00. The cow sculpture will be used as a raffle item for the fair this coming July. The next 2024 State Alumni Convention will be held in Oshkosh, WI.

NEW BUSINESS:

The co-chairpersons, Joni Beck & Teri Eulgen, were not present for information on the upcoming vendor/craft fair being held on Sat., April 1 at the 'Cotton Exchange' in Waterford, WI.

Doug Holden stated that he has not received any new information as of yet on the 'Breakfast on the Farm', which is being held at the 'Swans Pumpkin Farm' in Franksville, WI the end of June. He will let us know when information is out about it.

The scholarship committee sent out the scholarship applications & they are due on March 10, 2023. The committee will meet soon to judge them.

Proficiency awards committee members will receive the applications by email this year for judging. The committee will meet soon to finalize the awards in the various categories.

Doug Holden stated there are no menu changes so far for the fair food booth. He will send out the 'sign-up genius' in May for booth working hours. Pres. Ehrhart has received the contract for rent of the fair food booth of \$1398.00, which is up from \$1200.00 in 2022. A motion was made by Tracey Schaal & seconded by Candy Ganhs to pay the rent amount on the contract for the fair food booth this year.

Michelle Chart stated that she can order hats with the alumni logo for fair for the food booth now.

Our next meeting will be held on Wed., April 5, 2023 at 6:30pm at the 'Cotton Exchange' restaurant in Waterford, WI.

A motion was made Tracey Schaal & seconded by Andy Ganhs to go into closed session in regards to Maya Moczynski's SAE grant project, which is her beef project, she is asking for \$480.00 on grant money. After a lengthy discussion about the items she is looking for, a motion was made by Doug Holden & seconded by Gary Beck Jr. to award her the \$480.00 for the project with stipulations of updating us on the items purchased or repaired & giving a final report in September on the project. An idea was suggested by Gary Beck Jr., that if there are any alumni members that have items that other chapter students could use for their FFA projects, we could mention them in our so called 'Alumni Toolbox' for use. Members would send a text & picture of the item(s) to Justin Ehrhart with contact information for the person who donated the item(s) & then it would be put on our website.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Doug Holden & seconded by Devin Chart (7:33pm).

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen North, Sec.

