

WATERFORD FFA ALUMNI MEETING MINUTES

The December alumni meeting was called to order by Pres. Justin Ehrhart at 6:40pm at the 'Cotton Exchange restaurant ('Plantation Hall') in Waterford, WI,

There were 18 alumni members, 3 chapter students & 1 guest present.

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

FFA CHAPTER NEWS:

Chapter officers, Luke Hying & Dakota Powalisz, gave an update on student news & activities as follows:

1. Seventeen students attended the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN on Nov. 1-4. They attended sessions, a concert, a rodeo & the American Degree ceremony & saw Sydney Kaluzy receive her degree.
2. We helped Mrs. Beck mark off the floor for the craft fair booths on Fri. afternoon & helped with set on Fri. & Sat. We also held our bake night for the bake sale the next day.
3. The fruit sale grossed more than \$7000.00 this year, which is more than last year.
4. The tractor restoration members visited the Patterson home & thanked them for the donation of a 1943 Farmall M tractor to be restored this year & into 2024. They have contacted the Case Co. about getting some parts.
5. The FFA had a float in the Waterford Christmas parade on Sat., Dec. 2.
6. The State FFA officer will be visiting WHS on Mon., Dec. 11. He will be holding a workshop & we will have a potluck meal.
7. The FFA speaking contests will be held on Wed., Jan 31, 2024 at WHS. When a chapter hosts the contest they provide the meal. There are about 60-80 students & advisors that attend. Mr. Wicks asked the alumni if they would like to provide a catered meal. After a discussion, Tracey Schaal asked Mr. Wicks if we could split the cost of the meal, which he agreed too. Discussing what kind of meal to serve, Nick Beck made a motion to refer this to a committee, which Doug Holden seconded. As to the cost, a motion was made by Tracey Schaal & seconded by Candy Ganhs to have a budget of \$500.00 for the meal from the alumni.
8. CDE's will be coming up soon. Mr. Wicks asked if any alumni adults would like to help train & work with the students or if you know of someone who would like to help.
9. Students are working on their proficiency applications now & are due by Christmas break. Mr. Wicks would like the alumni to help critique the applications before they are due.

ALUMNI OFFICER REPORTS:

The secretary's (Eileen North) report/minutes was emailed out to all alumni members prior to tonight's meeting to read over. A motion was made by Julie Rusk & seconded by Nick Beck to approve the secretary's report.

The treasurer's (Teri Eulgen) report was read as follows: we currently have \$29,240.53 in the checking acct., \$6,495.22 in the scholarship fund, which \$1100.00 was added from the Dennis North family memorial, \$5113.46 in the CD & \$20.00 in the Venmo/PayPal acct., all of which are at Community State Bank. A motion was made Gary Beck Sr. & seconded by Greg Schaal to accept the treasurer's report.

The reporter (Kathy Skorstad) had no news at this time.

The Historian (Julie Rusk) stated that she has some pictures here tonight but is in need of funding names to go with the pictures. If anyone can help, please see her after the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Treas., Teri Eulgen gave a brief final report on the 'Fall Harvest Days' that was held Sept. 9 & 10 at the fairgrounds. Total income was \$2842.31 less expenses of \$2,469.61 for a net profit of \$372.72.

Julie Rusk, chairperson of the meat raffle that was held on Sept. 24, gave a final financial report stating total income was \$2,070.00 less expenses of \$637.00 for ¼ of the beef & \$313.00 for hog processing for a total net profit of \$1,672.00.

Treas., Teri Eulgen gave a preliminary report on the fall craft fair that was held on Sat., Nov. 18 at WHS. Booth income was \$2,770.00, door income was \$360.05, lunch stand income was \$398.00 for a total income of \$3,528.05 less expenses of \$448.69 for a net profit so far of \$3,079.36. Chairperson, Joni Beck, thanked everyone one who helped on Fri. & Sat.

NEW BUSINESS:

Our Christmas raffle drawing was held at 7pm with the following winners: 1st place - \$250.00 – Michelle Chart; 2nd place - \$100.00 – Julie Rusk; 3rd place - \$75.00 gift certificate to the 'Cotton Exchange' – Gary Beck Sr.; 4th place - \$50.00 TSC gift card – Pat Lois & 5th place - \$25.00 Kwik Trip gift card – Jeff James. The committee will give a final financial report at the January meeting.

We received thank you cards from the FFA students that attended the National FFA Convention thanking us for our financial support. We also received a thank you card from the Waterford shooting team thanking us for the meal ticket chips for their banquet coming up on Feb. 24, 2024.

We participated in an 'Adopt-a-Family' again through Love, Inc. in Burlington. It was a family of parents with 3 boys (2-3 yr. old twins & an 8 yr. old boy). Kathy Ehrhart stated that the gifts were purchased & delivered to Love on Fri., Dec. 2. We spent about \$200.00 on the family.

Our annual 'after' Christmas party will be held on Sat., Jan. 13, 2024 at the 'Cotton Exchange' restaurant in the 'Cotton Patch Room' with cocktails from 6:30 – 7pm followed by dinner at 7pm. The secretary has emailed out the information & menu selection choices & they are due back to her by Jan. 8, 2024. Julie Rusk will be doing the game & she asked those who want to participate in the game to bring a wrapped gift in the amount of \$25.00. Desserts are welcomed.

New alumni officer elections will be held on Wed., Jan. 3, 2024 at our next alumni meeting. If you are interested in running for an officer position, please contact Pres. Ehrhart & be present that night. The new alumni officers will then have a budget meeting sometime in January.

The State FFA Alumni Convention will be held in Green Bay, WI on Feb. 2-4, 2024. Vice-Pres. Tracey Schaal stated that registration is \$150.00 per person, which the alumni will reimburse you, & is due soon. Rooms are \$120.00 for a king size bed & \$110.00 for 2 queen beds. A discussion was held in regards to us doing a basket for the auction at the convention & what we could spend at the auction. A motion was made by Tracey Schaal & seconded by Doug Holden that we spend \$250.00 on a basket & \$500.00 on the auction.

Alumni member Devin Chart's father, Ed Chart, passed away this past Mon., Dec. 4, 2023. Our sympathy goes out to the family. In the past the alumni has given a card with money for the family. A motion was made by Gary Beck Jr. & seconded by Joni Beck to give a \$50.00 check to JoAnn Chart, Ed's wife, with the card.

Our next meeting will be held on Wed., January 3, 2024 at 6:30pm at the 'Cotton Exchange' restaurant in Waterford, WI.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Nick Beck & seconded by Tracey Schaal (7:50pm).

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen North, Sec.