

Sauk Prairie FFA Alumni and Supporters Meeting
October 9, 2019
Minutes

Sauk Prairie FFA Alumni members met at 6:00 at the Merrimac Community Charter School to tour the facility, see how they implement agriculture in their day-to-day activities with their students and learn about the district teacher's experience at Ag Bus Tour.

Members in attendance: Lora Kippley, Anna Raschein, Terry Slotty, Sue Slotty, Sally and Mark Ladsten, Kathy and Tom Breunig, Ken Noltner, Kimmi Evert, Brad and Terry Anderson, Troy Talford, Mike and Maria Dunse, Angela Mack, Jared Mack, Frank Kuzma, and Tina Raschein

Brad Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:51 PM.

Secretary's report – August 14 meeting moved to approve by Mark Ladsten, seconded by Jared Mack.

Treasurer's Report – Kathy Breunig

- Checking account: \$ 21,160.46
- Line of credit: \$8,000.00
- Supply account: \$ 349.64
- Scholarship account: \$ 6015.51
- Mortgage: \$50,394.99

We received the legacy grant for the Alumni to work with the students on an event (7th Grade Career Day) - \$1,000 was contributed for the lunch food. Line of credit will be paid off once final expenses are back from the Fish Fry.

Motion to approve the treasurer's report – Tina Raschein, Tom Breunig seconded.

Advisor's Report:

7th Grade Career day was officially cancelled for this year. We plan on the legacy grant being available for a new project. Troy also shared Thank You notes from various families that the Alumni sent donations to for passed loved ones. A thank you note was also received from the meat animal sale recipient and a thank you from the second agriculture teacher stipend.

Things are off and rolling this year. The officer team is young so there is a learning curve that has presented some challenges. Conversations are being had and the kids are learning every day. Curriculum changes this year are that Crop Science Horticulture Class, Biotechnology Class, and Water Life Sciences are now all science credits which is very exciting for students.

OLD BUSINESS:

Sectional Leadership Workshop- Jared Mack led – went well. Was very highly attended and students really enjoyed their time at Sauk Prairie. Jared shared his appreciation for the Alumni support. Individuals were also thanked for preparing the food and dessert.

Final Fall Pull Financials – A profit of \$ 7,077.86 is currently being showed per Kathy Breunig

Cow Chip Throw Pizza Stand Financials – Troy Led – \$2,564.95 was earned by the Alumni. The same amount was earned by the kids. Thank you to everyone who worked it.

McFarlanes' Car Show – Terry Slotty worked the food stand which profited \$380.00. Sue Slotty noted that in the future we should sell beverages next year if an option.

FFA Alumni Park Sale – A verbal offer was received by the police commission of \$400,000. Brad made the decision to tell the police commission that we are not interested in selling the facility until a new piece of land is found. It was noted that the meeting had in September was a great meeting and started the conversation about what the Alumni will do in the future.

7th Grade Career Day – September 27 – was cancelled due to weather. It will not be rescheduled due to scheduling conflicts. The event is on hold for the year. Amy Yanke is considering transitioning out of the role of Chair. No decision has been made, however she will stay on for the next year for sure to train the new chair should she decide to leave.

Fish Fry – September 27 – was a highly successful event considering the weather. There were 270 attendees and it was very well received. Anticipated net income is around \$700.00 - 1,200.00. Troy mentioned that perhaps we should consider organizing the event by tables. Attendees could sit at a table and be called up when their table is ready for dinner. Additionally, we could implement a carry out line. More fryers are needed to make this a more successful event. Sue Slotty would prefer containers that have dividers in them for cleanliness. A chair for the event will be needed for next year as Shelly Hacker will no longer be the chair. Thank you to Sue Slotty, Terry Slotty, Amy Yanke, and Kim Houser that helped with set up with Troy.

Fall Raffle – held at the fish fry. Keith Slotty chaired – currently we are at \$4,580.00 as a profit as we are still collecting money. It was noted a majority of the tickets were sold by the students.

Any other old business –

HATZ Farm Donation came through finally for \$500.00 noted by Kathy Breunig.

NEW BUSINESS:

Establishment of Sponsorship Committee – Lora Kippley mentioned establishing a sponsorship committee to assist in mitigating sponsorship. Something to consider is sponsorship levels so we only have to ask for sponsorship once a year versus several times per year. It was noted that on the books this will be more difficult to track as all the money would be coming in at one time which would make it harder to divide out sponsorship money per event. To explore this possibility, a committee is necessary.

Wine and Cheese Pairing Update – Lora Kippley led – monthly meeting was last night for both of the following events. May 21 is still a goal date for this event. Vendors are being explored for the event. Goal is to present to the group at the annual meeting a more detailed planned. The goal attendance number is 15-20 rounds with 8 people per round.

Farm to Table Updates – Cathy Jo and Sabrina Yanke attended Wauktoberfest to see what it was like. Lora attended the Harvest Moon event. It was noted in tonight's meeting that the Harvest Moon event did sell out and they intend to do the event again.

Mobile Meals – Week of November 18 – the alumni is signed up to participate in this program. The alumni is looking for five people to drive around and deliver meals each of the five days. If interested – Troy will give details. It occurs mid-day.

FFA Printer Purchase - \$600 – the colored printer in the ag room died. The alumni sponsored \$600.00 (half of the value to split with the students). Moved to ratify the motion by Terry Slotty and seconded by Jared Mack.

Upcoming Events –

Annual Meeting – January – we need to find a location. Dorf Haus is an option to consider. Mike Dunse to check in.

Consignment Auction – Planned to do this again sometime in the spring – perhaps not the first weekend in March this year. Brad Anderson to look into details soon. Mark Ladsten is still planning on chairing the food for the event.

Sportsman's Banquet – The committee has not met at this time. Date will be set soon after a committee meeting taking into consideration Easter Sunday.

Other new business:

Tim the Farmer is a comedian we could potentially host, sell tickets for people to attend and perhaps hold the event in January. He cost \$4,000. RAC costs \$500.00. Marketing would also be an expense to consider. We can save money by doing our own ushering. Tickets go through Lindsay Giese at RAC. RAC holds 492 people. Ticket cost would be TBD. Tim is also flexible on price. Perhaps something to consider for FFA week? First weekend of January is currently what Tim has open in his schedule. Pam Yanke is another outlet we could utilize for marketing. It may be a great event to lift the spirits of the people in our community. Mark Ladsten moved to move forward with getting more information and getting him booked. Anna Raschein Seconded.

Tina Raschein commented that it was great to see how excited the teachers were tonight with their ag bus tour. It's easy to forget how much people don't know about the industry therefore it was a very enlightening experience. Troy mentioned that a referendum is being voted on to expand the location where tonight's meeting took place.

Move to adjourn – Mark Ladsten

Seconded – Tom Breunig

Meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM