

Maryland FFA Board of Directors
Meeting 4-6-2017
Frederick MAFC- 5:00 p.m.

Chuck Schuster, Naomi Knight, Nicole Michol, George Mayo, Tom Linthicum, Ellie Grossnickle, Richard O'Hara, Mike Harrington, Greg Stull, Brenda White, Lori Mayhew, Steve Garland, Terrie Shank, Joe Linthicum and Jodi Callahan.

The meeting was called to order at 5:18 p.m. by Chairman Chuck Schuster.

The Minutes of the January 19, 2017 Board meeting were reviewed. Mike Harrington moved to accept the Minutes of the January 19, 2017 Board meeting. Richard O'Hara seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report-A quarterly report was not available. Naomi Knight provided a financial report of outstanding chapter invoices. See Attached. Tom Linthicum moved to accept the report. ~~and file for audit.~~ Steve Garland seconded the motion. The motion passed.

State Officers Report-Ellie Grossnickle and Nicole Michol- See Attached.

Chuck Schuster thanked the officers for their dedication and service to the Association this year.

Richard O'Hara shared that the officer team attended the Taste of Maryland Agriculture Dinner and welcomed everyone to the event. Brenda White shared that the team also attended the National Officer reception at the Natural History Museum in Washington D.C.

Auditing Committee-George Mayo reported that Leasa Gudderra, Naomi Knight, Terrie Shank, George Mayo conducted an internal audit of the Association accounts on Monday, March 27, 2017. Treasurer Matt Koerner provided all documentation and was well organized. Matt Koerner is currently working on the 990 Tax form due which is due in May. George Mayo asked that the Treasurer's reports from the Board meetings be added to the documentation kept by the Treasurer.

George Mayo noted that all accounts are in order and the audit went smoothly. George Mayo shared that it would be helpful if the new Treasurer has some knowledge of the Maryland FFA and quick books. Matt Koerner is willing to assist in the transition and training of the new person for the job.

Unfinished Business

Review of Spring Judging Events- Naomi Knight shared that 328 students were registered for the event. A total of 293 students participated that day. She shared a breakdown of students participating in each event. Naomi Knight shared that there were many sponsors for the Agricultural Mechanics and Technology event. Alban CAT donated six small gasoline engines; Potomac Edison donated six electrical panel boxes for the event and a testing unit to the top individual in the electrical wiring area. Universal Technical Institute presented certificates for a 25% reduction in tuition to attend the school to the team members on the top 3 teams.

Chuck Schuster asked for additional comments: Steve Garland shared that Region 1 teachers thought the Ag. Mechanics event is too long. Some asked to have the events moved back to a time during the week. Jodi Callahan shared that her Chapter President asked about scanning and saving waivers into google docs then sharing for the events. Discussion was held regarding waivers and having them in to the state staff at the deadline so that they are complete and on site in the event of an emergency during the event. George Mayo shared a "Thank You" to Clear Ridge Nursery for hosting the Nursery/Landscaping event. He commented that the event went well with a few things to tweak for the future but nothing major. Greg Stull shared some concerns that some events were relatively short in time and others lengthy. Teachers would like to see the events more aligned with the national events. The event reviews were really good, but not everyone knew when they are held. Richard O'Hara asked if there was a formal evaluation of the spring judging program. Are the teachers, volunteers and sponsors pleased with event, facility, day of the week? Is there anything to move to the Spring Judging event from the State Convention or vice-versa? Do we have possible dates for 2018?

Lori Mayhew moved to refer the discussion on the CDE at Spring Judging, event location and contest formats to a committee appointed by the Chair. The motion was seconded by Mike Harrington. The motion to refer was voted on and passed. The committee will report back to the Board at the June 8th meeting. Chuck Schuster appointed Gregg Stull to serve as chairman. Committee members: Diane Herndon, Nicole Michol.

Review of General Rules and Regulations-Naomi Knight shared the revised copies of the General Rules and Regulations. She noted that the changes from the January meeting were approved and incorporated in the document. Richard O'Hara moved to accept the General Rules and Regulations as revised. Steve Garland seconded the motion and the motion passed.

State Officer Candidate (SOC) Handbook-Naomi Knight presented a page to be included in the State Officer Candidate Handbook addressing "Balancing your time while being a State Officer" Lori Mayhew asked about including a prompt for the Advisor recommendation to be included on the SOC application. Richard O'Hara would like to see added to the Parent guidelines: "I have reviewed the tentative schedule of activities with my child and upon their election to serve, can fulfill their duties." Students should also have a sign off that, "everything in the application is factual". Richard also suggested that the candidates have a clear understanding that if they can't make changes in their life, they must understand that they will be excused. Richard O'Hara moved to accept the additional wording on Balancing your time while being a State Officer and the updated parent statement. Tom Linthicum seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Chapters in Good Standing: page 5 "Current state rules will be strictly enforced starting the 2017-2018 school year." Greg Stull questioned the changes and enforcing the guidelines. Lori Mayhew noted that the minutes do not reflect her intended motion. Richard O'Hara read the section of the minutes from the meeting in January. Chuck Schuster noted that he thought that the November 30th deadline for dues and membership would be extended until March 1st for the 2016-17 year and then move the deadline back to November 30 for roster and POA. Richard O'Hara noted that we need to have teeth in the

guidelines. George Mayo commented on time being spent by staff to address advisors who are not meeting deadlines. Greg Stull asked why they are being allowed to participate. Naomi Knight commented that the staff is trying not to limit or hurt the students when Advisors are not following the published deadlines.

Commitment for out of state travel. Richard O'Hara asked what the reason was for staying out of the housing block. Greg Stull commented that it was strictly a financial decision and that there was a great savings to his chapter from traveling with other chapters on a bus and making their own housing arrangements through the National FFA Organization. Chuck Schuster asked how much is given to the Maryland FFA for support of students who travel out of state. Terrie Shank provided a copy of the Maryland Agricultural Fair Board Grant which showed that \$9,000 was awarded to the Association for National Convention CDE and American Degree Recipients. Terrie Shank shared that the housing block could be dropped and all chapter advisors would have to go through the National FFA open housing requests to gain housing during the convention. Richard O'Hara commented that he would like to see the Maryland FFA Association keep the housing blocks for this year for those chapters who want to utilize it. Jodi Callahan commented that as a new advisor, she likes being with Maryland FFA in the housing block. Joe Linthicum shared that for a one Advisor program, having a known location for housing and the support of other advisors is very beneficial. Lori Mayhew shared that for the fall activities, she can't submit paperwork until June 1st and then monies will be reimbursed once an invoice is presented. Having to book rooms through the National FFA housing and give an immediate deposit of \$50/room would be impossible for her to do.

George Mayo moved that Chapters who represent Maryland in out of state career and leadership development events must provide proof of participation in the event to the Maryland FFA Program Coordinator within 45 days of their return from the event to be eligible to receive allocated monies for CDE team members, American Degree and Regional Delegates from the MAFB grant in the amounts determined by the Maryland FFA Board of Directors. Motion was seconded by Tom Linthicum. Motion passed.

New Business

State convention costs, schedule-and financials presented by Naomi. Joe moved to accept the proposed rate increases for state convention stating that student costs would be \$235/student. Brenda White seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Regional Coordinators survey- Terrie Shank has been asked by Chuck Schuster and George Mayo to survey the FFA Regional Coordinators and pull together a list of the duties and responsibilities that they currently do and develop a guide for use by the Regional Coordinators. The survey has been sent to the coordinators. Naomi Knight presented a diagram of the positions on the Maryland FFA Board to the Board members in order to clarify the structure of all the positions on the Board.

Storage of materials for CDE/LDE- Terrie Shank shared a concern from Ag Mechanics CDE superintendents Doug Eaves and David Fuss as to where would be an appropriate site for the materials and supplies which have been donated for the event to be stored from one event to the next. The

facility should be able to house the six engines, electrical panel boxes, and other materials. During the discussion, it was mentioned that a climate controlled facility may be best to limit the moisture around the materials. Greg Stull suggested a 10 foot storage container may be an appropriate size. George Mayo and Chuck Schuster will research more about storage options.

Request for increase in mileage for State Officer Travel-Terrie Shank shared that the mileage paid to the Maryland FFA State Officers for travel is still at \$.40/mile. The federal rate is currently \$.54/mile. Terrie Lori Mayhew moved to increase the reimbursement rate for the Maryland FFA State Officers to be based upon the federal level at the time of budget approval by the Board. Tom Linthicum seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Association Treasurer-Resume from Laura Ramsburg was presented to the Board by Chairman Chuck Schuster. After review of the resume, Joe Linthicum moved to appoint Laura Ramsburg as the Maryland FFA Association Treasurer. Greg Stull seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Appointment of Board member for State Officer Nominating Committee- As Chairman of the Maryland FFA Board of Directors, Chuck Schuster volunteered to attend the State Officer Candidate Interviews on May 19 & May 20, 2017 representing the FFA Board of Directors.

Location date, time for Annual meeting- Chuck Schuster asked for recommended dates to hold the Annual Maryland FFA Board of Directors Annual Meeting. The date of Thursday, November 30, 2017 was selected. The location will be determined at a later time.

Terrie Shank shared scoring issues from Spring Judging and took full responsibility for the calculation of scores. Suggestions from the Board members to assist in the accuracy of the scoring of events included limiting the participants to those identified on the team so that only the team members scores are tabulated, identifying the team members and scoring their sheets and calculating the placings for individuals and teams before scoring the extra individuals participating in an event.

Limiting the number of participants in Veterinary Science CDE- Brooke Ridinger, Superintendent of the Veterinary Science CDE has requested that due to the number of students who have been participating (Over 100 in 2016) she is requesting that only the team members be allowed to participate in the CDE and additional individual students not be accepted. Space is limited and the time to conduct the event becomes a concern for the students and those judging the event. Greg Stull moved to limit to the number of students in the Veterinary Science event to only the team members. Lori Mayhew seconded the motion. Additional Discussion: Ellie Grossnickle shared that she felt it was useful to have additional students in the event to gain the experience of the event. Maybe they could participate, but their scores not count. Nicole Michol shared that she thought students would be willing to pay the \$10/person fee to be able to participate. It was suggested that the Top 10 individuals in the event be based on the identified team members. After much discussion, Chairman Schuster asked for a vote on the motion to limit Veterinary Science to only team members. The vote was 11-1 with Joe Linthicum voting against the motion. The motion passed.

Terrie Shank asked to wave the 24 hour wait time after scoring for the events held at the State Convention. Last year, Veterinary Science, Floriculture, Forestry and Environmental and Natural Resources events could not be scored until late evening following the events. Steve Garland moved to wave the 24 hour wait time for scoring the CDE and reporting results at the State Convention. Lori Mayhew seconded the motion and the motion passed.

With no further business to be discussed, Greg Stull moved to adjourn the meeting. Steve Garland seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrie Shank,
Maryland FFA Executive Director