

Maryland FFA Association Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 11, 2020 03:00 PM

Zoom Conference Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85845634161?pwd=ZzRicURmY1dmVnBkSlgzeGs3MnpOUT09>

Meeting ID: 858 4563 4161 Passcode: 112553

Those in attendance: Karen Nicklas, Susanne Zilberfarb, Richard O'Hara, Karen Myers, Stephanie Moore, Jason Watt, Laura Ramsburg, Amy Jo Poffenberger, Quinn Cashell-Martin, Naomi Knight, Terrie Shank, Cassie Bell, Helen Leadingham, McKayla Kiernan, Kyle Schulze, Morgan DeFriece, Elsie McKenzie. Guest Presenters Marquita Friday and Chuck Wallace from MSDE.

The Meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m. by Chairperson, Karen Nicklas.

Acceptance of Agenda Items-Terrie Shank added a discussion of support for teams to participate in the State Collide Agronomy Competition. The agenda was accepted as presented.

The Minutes of the April 15, 2020 meeting were presented. Susanne Zilberfarb moved to accept the minutes as presented. Karen Myers seconded the motion and the motion passed.

The Treasurer's Report was shared by Laura Ramsburg. Amy Jo Poffenberger moved to accept the report and file it for audit. Susanne Zilberfarb seconded the motion. The motion passed and the report will be filed for audit.

Membership/Chapter Report-Naomi Knight shared that with the schools being closed since March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there was no report to be submitted today.

State Officer Team Report was given by Cassie Bell, President. She highlighted the activities that the team has participated in since their election in June. All Officers contributed to the published report.

Committee Reports

Constitution and By-Laws Committee. Richard O'Hara, Chairman shared that the committee has met twice since March and are presenting the revised Constitution and By-Laws for review by the Board. He noted that the majority of the changes were to bring the Maryland FFA Constitution and By-Laws in line with the new National FFA Constitution which was approved in January. The changes are to be reviewed and a vote to support those changes will take place at the next Board meeting in October. Once approved, the document will be shared with the Advisors and students so that a vote to accept the changes can take place in the Spring or at the State Convention.

Nominating Committee. Karen Nicklas shared that there were seven qualified candidates this year. She felt that the process was well organized and that the Committee members had a chance to get to know the candidates and see their personalities. The Interview process consisted of large group discussion, personal interviews and small group work. Karen congratulated the officers and thanked them for their desire to serve the Association.

Unfinished Business:

Review of 2020 virtual State Convention. Terrie Shank asked for feedback from the Board members as to their thoughts about the State convention and how it was presented. Susanne Zilberfarb noted that she was impressed with the virtual convention knowing that there were a lot of pieces to put together in a short amount of time. She recommended having the press releases prepared in advance of each session so that they could be released to the media immediately following the sessions.

Chuck Wallace congratulated the Board and Officers on an excellent virtual event.

Amy Jo Poffenberger shared that she thought the Convention went well. She was able to access and share parts of the convention from a local venue. She also reposted the links for her students to access and view. Feedback from the students were that they enjoyed the virtual convention. Her recommendation was to improve on the audio as it was difficult to hear the speakers at times during the convention.

Karen Nicklas suggested possibly ordering some portable microphones to use in recording the event this coming year which would enhance the sound quality.

McKayla Kiernan felt that the convention went well from a student member perspective.

Helen Leadingham agreed that the sound during the sessions needs to be enhanced and that the sessions could possibly be longer and more interactive for members.

New Business:

Signing of the Board of Director's Conflict of Interest, Disclosure and Code of Conduct documents- Terrie Shank will be sending these three documents to the members of the Board to be signed and returned to her by the end of September.

Career and Technical Student Organization Policies and Procedures-Marquita Friday and Chuck Wallace from the Maryland State Department of Education shared a power point presentation on the CTSO Policy and Procedures which have recently been updated and the Perkins funding plan. Marquita Friday emphasized the fact that Career Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) are co-curricular to the education program. She shared that the new Perkins funding specifically names CTSO and allows for money to be spent in support of student competitions, including travel, teacher stipends and materials and uniforms. At the end of the presentation, there is a request for documents to support the work of the State level CTSO. Terrie Shank will provide these documents to Marquita Friday by the end of September.

Susanne Zilberfarb asked how many Advisors receive stipends for working beyond the school day with students in CTSO events. Marquita Friday was not sure how many; but noted that many are not receiving support and now can through their local CTE Director's plan for using Perkins funding.

Amy Jo Poffenberger asked if the Perkins funds were only available for student competitions or could they be used to provide support for students to attend leadership events or purchase of leadership training materials? Marquita Friday responded that the legislation specifically names competitions and she felt that would be covered before the funding of leadership conferences or activities.

Terrie Shank asked when should Advisors be contacting their CTE Directors to receive funding? Marquita Friday and Chuck Wallace explained that there are three opportunities for local programs to

receive funding. CTE Directors start developing their local plans in February-March with submission to the MSDE by May. Reserve fund grants are developed in January and submitted in March. CTE Innovation grants for new programs, transforming existing programs to virtual or on-line delivery are being developed in July/August and are due in September. It is never too early to talk with local CTE Directors and make your funding needs known to support your students and program.

A Strategic Plan Framework for the Maryland FFA Association was presented by Susanne Zilberfarb.

There are four main goals within the plan.

1. Increase statewide membership to 5,000 members by 2022.
2. Transition competitions to virtual platforms.
3. Increase number of members receiving awards.
4. Engage State Officers in meaningful, well rounded year of service.

Terrie Shank will send a copy of the written plan to the Board members. The members of the Board are asked to review the written plan and send their comments, additions and suggestions to Susanne by August 31st. Her email is szilberfarb@maefonline.com

Amy Jo Poffenberger shared that she has a difficult time keeping students in her program through their senior year as they have many opportunities to take A.P. classes, participate in Apprenticeships, Internships and Dual Enrollment at the Community College.

MD FFA Activities and Event survey. As a component of the Strategic Planning process, Naomi Knight will be developing a survey to send to teachers regarding their opportunity to have members participate in virtual events. She asked for input from the Board members to help develop the survey. Amy Jo Poffenberger suggested sending it out to the teachers in mid-September after they have returned to teaching students and have a better idea of their schedules and which activities are being allowed for student participation by the local school system.

States Collide Agronomy Competition- Terrie Shank shared an email received from Dr. Melissa Welsh, MD FFA Agronomy Superintendent, telling about a first-ever Agronomy event for student from across the United States. The event will be held on a virtual format in October and February. Maryland students would participate in February. Dr. Welsh is willing to assist in coordinating the Maryland students/teams. The cost is \$50/team to participate. Laura Ramsburg was asked if there are funds to support the participation of teams in this event. She said that there was since we didn't spend as much on CDE this spring. Amy Jo Poffenberger shared that it would be difficult for teachers to commit right now since they are not back in school with students until after the registration deadline of August 28, 2020. Susanne Zilberfarb moved to set aside up to \$300 to sponsor six local Agronomy teams from Maryland to participate in this event. Amy Jo Poffenberger seconded the motion and the motion passed. Terrie Shank will share this information with those Chapter Advisors who have had students participated in the Maryland Agronomy CDE in the past to see if they may be interested in participating in this event. Terrie Shank will also follow up with Dr. Welsh so that Maryland teams are counted in those who may participate.

Meeting dates for the Board through 2021. All meeting will be held virtually as of this time.

Monday, October 12, 2020 at 6pm

Monday, December 14, 2020 at 6pm

Monday, January 11, 2021 at 6pm- Annual Meeting

Monday, February 8, 2021 at 6pm

Monday, April 12, 2021 at 6pm

Monday, June 14th at 6pm

Monday, August 9, 2021 at 3pm.

With no further business to be discussed, Amy Jo Poffenberger moved to adjourn the meeting. Karen Myers seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terrie Shank

Terrie Shank, Executive Director
Maryland FFA Association