

November 16, 2015 – Alumni Committee Meeting

Secretarial Minutes taken by Becky Miller

FFA Family, Friends & Alumni Attendance:

Stacy Warner	Todd Dorr
Terry Dorr	Daryl Garness
Dave & Becky Miller	Jim & Chris Miller
Michelle Wilson	

Annual Meeting: Terry Dorr - President and Stacy Warner – Treasurer positions up for new election. Motion was made that they stay on for one more term which they have accepted and all approved.

Treasury Report by Stacy Warner - was read and all approved

Secretary Report by Becky Miller - was read and all approved.

Old Business

Website ideas: Website committee Leslie Svacina, Todd Dorr and Michelle Wilson. Whomever else is interested in helping to manage the website is more than welcome to join this committee.

State FFA Alumni Award – needs to be submitted by November 30th deadline. Application = Website Award”.

New Members is ongoing.

Volunteer application is on line on the website www.newrichmondffaalumni.com along with Membership Form to be available. Take time to review on line and fill these out if they apply to you.

Ongoing documentation with what all is needed to put on an alumni event to make it all successful and easier for a new person to come in and help with food booth, registration, etc....

Fundraisers:

- Food Stand Upgrade/Events.
- Shawnee Holte’s Family – Offered to give us a Highland hide, head (skull) and horns to do as we want. Discussed doing a yearlong raffle and checking into social media on the internet. Leslie made a motion to accept the offer of the hide, head and horns. Jim Gillis seconded it. Terry Dorr checking with Rachel Sauvola to see if they have proceeded with this yet.
- Michelle Wilson – Tried working with St. Croix County Craft Fairs setting up at Farm & Home but to no success. See about doing this next year a lot earlier.
- Farm To Table Discussion – No Discussion was done on this.

Thank You’s. – Terry Dorr working on. Also – Visa Gift Card of \$100.00 for volunteering the outdoor bathrooms for our events this year.

Stacy Warner implementing/incentive toward member volunteer time at event(s) and to somehow pool money together for when needed later by a specific member request and approval. Becky Miller has put together all the documentation of worker(s) and hours worked for all alumni events.

Affiliated for Alumni for \$350.00 unlimited members September 1, - August 31th – Due in March 2016.

New Business - Rachel Sauvola's Report:

I am not in attendance tonight as I am attending the National Association of Agricultural Educator's Conference. Throughout the week I will be presenting four workshops - Juggling Elephants by Jones Loflin, How to Have Conversations with Administration, D is for Delegation and Lessons about Sweeteners in Food Science.

The FFA needs several volunteers to assist them with the Farm and Home Breakfast with Santa event on Sat. Dec. 5th. They will start at 8 a.m. and end at 1:00 p.m. If you want to set up shifts, that's a great idea, but if people can help the whole time, that's great too. You'll be in charge of the members as I am out of town that weekend. Duties will include: making sausage, running products from the back room to the serving line, pouring milk, serving food in the line, cleaning tables, filling syrup containers, and being a general go-to person. Please let me know if you can help!

Since the last meeting we have volunteered to be creepers at Dreadwood, which was a TOTALLY AWESOME night. Despite the torrential downpours in the afternoon and then as the event was wrapping up, we had a fantastic time scaring people in the woods. The make-up and outfits we wore were so amazing that when we shared pictures, the Assistant Principal, Mr. Swanson couldn't recognize anyone. He actually wants to go with us next year because he loves that kind of thing. We will go back and do this event again. We welcome you to come with us...there are non-scary things that they need help with too.

National Convention was one of the best trips we've taken and was bittersweet with it being the last year in Louisville. Record attendance was set with 65,149 people in attendance. Speakers were fantastic - You can see the archived sessions at www.ffa.org/broadcast - Tours were a blend of old and new - WI Cranberry Discovery Center, Harley Davidson, Old Town Chicago for pizza, Albanese Candy Factory, Chicagoland Popcorn, Fair Oaks Farms, and Kentucky Derby Museum and Churchill Downs. Thank you again for your \$500 contribution to lessen the financial burden for these students.

We wrapped up the fruit/meat/cheese sale with an additional 300 items sold by our additional members. Delivery will be Tuesday, Dec. 8th and items need to be picked up at the HS from 3-7 p.m. that evening. I would love to have some Family, Friends and Alumni members there to triple check orders, meet families, help load vehicles and assist as necessary. Please let me know if you can help me that evening. A HUGE thank you to Suann Dehne who helped with data entry on this project! She saved me hours and hours of time!

Parli Pro and speaking contest prep is underway. Our first contest is Jan. 25th at St. Croix Central beginning at 3:30 p.m. If you have the skills necessary to help with speaking contests - Discussion, Job Interview, Prepared, Extemp, Creed, Parli Pro and MS Quiz Bowl, I'd love to have you to help prepare the students for the District competition.

Two students spent this weekend with me at the 212/360 conference in Stevens Point. Their focus was influence and personal development. For one member, this was her very first conference and she sported her mom's coat from 1982. It was so cool to watch her experience this for the first time and I am confident it won't be her last!

While at a teacher workshop this weekend, I also heard about an event that we may want to try as a New Richmond Family, Friends and Alumni group. The Waupaca Friends of the FFA hosts a chili night where the group's mission is to recruit new members, showcase students, and answer questions from community members who want to get involved. Perhaps we could use that as our thank you event too that we've talked about for awhile now.

Students Jordan Saunders and Anthony Kastens, in addition to community partner, John Whittington and I wrote a grant for \$958 for a vertical aquaponic system and we won it! So you'll see a new structure coming into the Aquaculture Lab soon. We're working with H2O in Stillwater to get all of the supplies. The grant was awarded by the Education Foundation of NR.

We're gearing up for our annual Thanksgiving petting zoo and bingo night at the Deerfield on Mon. Nov. 23rd from 6-7:30 p.m. If you can help, please meet us there. We're going to have a lot of animals and active members present. This is one of their favorite things to do!

They will help at Teen Night at the Centre like they do each Early Out. I already mentioned Breakfast with Santa and then on Dec. 7th it's our joint MS/HS meeting for the month with a cookie baking night. This would be another fun night to have us all together! We'll be baking in the FCSE room from 4-7 p.m. Bring your favorite dough or ingredients and we'll all work together to make treats for the Bake Sale at Farm and Home that next Saturday, Dec. 12th from 8 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

You likely read in the newspaper that the school is in the initial stages of partnering with the city and the airport on a 20 acre farm. I am very much a part of the conversation, therefore the barn project is on hold. This opportunity is a very exciting one for our students and our community as the intended focus is to teach people how to grow food!

Just a reminder too that our normal Dec. meeting has been held at a restaurant the last few years, which has been fun to enjoy a meal together while we talk about our upcoming events.

THANKS for your support and all you do to help the NR Agriscience Dept and FFA be successful!

As always, please let me know if you have any questions.
Rachel

Motion by Jim Miller to have next scheduled meeting on December 14, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at Champs Sport Bar, Stacy Warner seconded it. All were in favor.

Terry Dorr made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Todd Dorr seconded it. Meeting ended at 8:00 p.m.

Important note/dates for the year:

Discussions for all FFA Members who wish to receive funding from the Alumni, you need to help out at the scheduled events in order to make applicable funding work for you. Your hours are documented at these events. Trying to get out a calendar/events in writing by the September FFA Picnic so both Parent and child know this and are accountable for helping at the alumni events throughout the year.

Fundraiser Reminder – Selling Engine Heater timers (\$20.00) to local agricultural producers. Taking orders between September 1 and October 23, 2015.

Sat. Dec. 5th - 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Breakfast with Santa at Farm and Home - Will need a few volunteers to supervise the students as I am out of town.

Sat. Dec. 12th - Farm and Home - Bake sale.

Fri and/or Sat - Feb. 5 and 6th - State FFA Alumni Convention in Madison and World's Toughest Rodeo in St. Paul.

Mon. and Tues. March 14 and 15th - Awards Judging in my classroom.

Sun Apr. 10 - FFA Banquet at NRHS - Will need help with food, awards, dessert auction, etc. - Will start at 10:30 a.m.; eat at 1 p.m. and program at 2 p.m.

Sat. June 4th - Dairy Day