

September 19, 2016 – Alumni Organization Meeting

Secretarial Minutes taken by Becky Miller

FFA Family, Friends & Alumni Attendance:

Terry Dorr	Stacy Warner	Lea Zuern	Olivia Becker
Becky Miller	Jim Gillis	Lexi Dunford	
Michelle Wilson & Kaitlyn	Daryl Garness	Emily Tunnickliff	

Treasury Report by Stacy Warner = \$4,408.92 in checking and \$171.40 in savings. Jim Gillis made a motion to accept the Treasure Report as read and Daryl Garness seconded it. All approved.

NOTE: If you hold an Amazon Prime Account, there is a program call Amazon Smile where you can have from your total purchase, ½% can be directed to a designated organization of your choice like our FFA Program. It does like a quarterly deposit.

Secretary Report by Becky Miller – Daryl Garness made a motion to approve this month’s Secretary Report as read and Stacy Warner seconded it. All approved.

Old Business

- Website updates – Going good. Leslie is implementing new changes and looks good. A few tractor pull rules changing and will be updated on the website.
- Farm to table dinner – No discussion but is on-going.
- Alumni event documentation for all current events. What it takes to put on an event is on-going.
- FFA sign for entrance to city – Terry Dorr to follow-up on in the fall.
- Pulling Sled – monitor problems fixed for \$160.00. Looking into a different seat for future pulls. Add Ag’s Tronic and adult name as a sponsor to our list of sponsors.
- Fri/Sat. September 23th & 24th – Heritage Day Tractor Pull. Friday night is set up and Saturday the tractor pull. Stacy Warner and Rachel Sauvola will have waivers. Workers plan on starting around 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. for Saturday’s tractor pull.
- October 8, 2016 – Fall Plow Day. Field North of Joe Kruschke. Terry Dorr will talk to Cindy at the health center for busing the elderly who are interested to come and watch.
- October 9, 2016 – Welcome Picnic 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Have Scholarship Form and SAE Grant Form all up to date and ready to be added to the Welcome Picnic Packet. NOTE: Due date on Scholarship, first Friday in February to be handed into Rachel Sauvola.

New Business

- September 20, 2016 – Foundation Annual Meeting 6:00 p.m. at Ready Randy’s.
- SAE Grants and Scholarship Forms changes were approved by all and ready for distribution.
- AET Annual Renewal \$350/year student resumes – this is an online source and Stacy Warner made a motion to approve for the FFA Alumni to pay one-half of the cost for one year. All were in favor.
- School Farm T-shirts funding – these will be for next spring. Michelle Wilson will organize and start a group meeting for October 4, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. after school. It was also discussed that the students should do this dressed in uniform.
- National Convention – 4 girls and 1 boy are attending this convention and cost per person is \$350.00. Jim Gillis made a motion to give \$500.00 to the group and Lea Zuern seconded it. All were in favor of this motion.

Rachel News

FFA Advisor Notes - Prepared by: Lea Zuern, NRHS Agriscience Intern

Hello NR FFA Family, Friends and Alumni:

I would first like to introduce myself, my name is Lea Zuern, I am the agriscience intern here for the fall semester of classes. I am attending the University of Wisconsin River Falls, I will be graduating in December. My hopes are to teach somewhere up in this area after graduation. I am here this semester to learn as much as I can from Mrs. Sauvola and learn how to "drink the kool aid" of the ag world as she would say. I am super excited to learn and experience new things this semester.

First I would like to start off with classes, they are going great! I am teaching two sections of Wildlife Management and one section of Plants, Animals, Pizza, and More. Mrs. Sauvola has two sections of Small Animal Science, two sections Large Animal Science, one Greenhouse Management/Ag Business along with Food Science. The first week of school we spent educating our classes about FFA and their membership in the organization. We are super excited to see our students get involved with the FFA activities we presented to them.

It's that time of year again, National FFA Convention!!! I am excited to attend for the first time as an advisor. As always, prices continue to rise and we have more students interested than ever before. We are asking for a donation from the New Richmond FFA Family, Friends and Alumni to help give our students the best possible experience.

We also had two middle school kick off meetings. We had limited attendance at the first because of issues with announcements, so we scheduled a second one. Members picked paperwork up in the office and have been emailing Mrs. Sauvola for additional details. Both meetings went great! We played get to know you games and learned what our young members have to offer to the chapter. We also discussed SAE's and began to plant the seed of projects.

We had work days the week before school started to get the classroom ready for the new school year. We also were given another 2.5 acre garden from Al Clark at All Exterior - He moved his business over by Gibby's and the old doggy daycare. There is a corn field he's giving us to garden. We have also had one work day out at the school farm. We cleaned out the pole shed so that all of the old dirt and pig soil is gone. Now we're hoping for some new materials to be hauled in so that we can re-set the pens. The City is working on that. Bob Frank helped us take down the weeds out on the field, and do our first round of plowing. We had a meeting with Lance Kamm who agreed to give us anything we need regarding the farm. He's donating three calves and the Kruschkes/Franks will supply one. Rachel continues to meet with people every day about school farm things. Tomorrow, she will meet with the gentleman who will be teaching us about bees and helping us learn how to maintain the colony. Another great thing that has happened regarding the farm is that we have a retiring farmer who is willing to negotiate price/donate his small herd over the next two years. Rachel has also applied for two grants in the last two weeks totalling over \$80,000. She is not here tonight because the name of the District Farm is being approved at the School Board meeting, along with her presentation of the donation structure. She can share both with the group after they are Board approved.

Some meetings that we have attended this month are the Countryside Staff Meeting, Rotary, and with a possible new fruit company. We decided not to go with the Crazy Fresh Fruit company because this did not offer us everything that we would like in a fruit company. However we did make some great connections and have a possible guest speaker and field trip set up after that meeting!

The Happy Kids Back-Pack Program is back up and running for the school year. We do not yet have a set number but we are expecting more than we had last year - so over 80 backpacks with food packed each week..

Overall we are doing great! The classrooms are packed with amazing students and we are looking forward to another great month of progress. See you all at Plow Day on October 8th and the Welcome Picnic on October 9th!

Thank you to all who support the Agriscience students and me each and every day at each and every event! As always, if you'd like to volunteer, have something to donate or just need more information, don't hesitate to contact me at rsauvola@newrichmond.k12.wi.us or 715-243-1761.

Lea Zuern made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Daryl Garness seconded it. Next scheduled organizational meeting is Monday, October 17, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the High School.

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.

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Fri/Sat. Sept. 23th & 24th – Heritage Day Tractor Pull. Friday night is set up and Saturday the tractor pull.

Saturday. October 8, 2016– Fall Plow Day.

Sunday, October 9, 2016 – Welcome Picnic 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.