

ND FFA Foundation Meeting

November 14, 2019

Quality Inn Meeting Room E, Bismarck ND

Meeting called to order by Jeff Hagel @ **12:00 PM**

Members/Others present: Andrew Young, Christina Docker, Tommy Winders, Preston Gilderhus, Beth Allen, Brian Vculek, Kristi Tonnessen, Jeff Hagel, Dr. Adam Marx (by Skype), Pam Tonnessen, Aaron Anderson, Craig Kleven, Misty Steeke (by Skype), Brianna Maddock, Caleb Boehm, Ben VanBerkom, and Christina Bingham

Guests: Rueben Weigelt, Darin Spelhaug

Kristi **moved** to approve the agenda. **Seconded** by Brianna. Motion **passed**.

Secretary's report was prepared and presented by Pam and reviewed by the board. Preston corrected the spelling error on Bryan Strom's name. Kristi **moved** to approve the secretary's report as corrected. Preston **seconded**. Motion **passed**.

Treasurer's report and budget was reviewed, and Preston provided handouts for the finances of the foundation. Caleb **moved**. Brianna **seconded**. Motion **passed**.

Reports:

NDSU Ag Ed – Adam (by Skype)

- Currently four student teachers (3 ND, 1 MN) with six scheduled for the Spring
- NDSU Ag Ed had a very successful booth at National Convention; many interested students from all over the US; connected with teachers when looking to expand online graduate programs; banner for a photo booth
- NDSU has shortfall in enrollment and higher ed across the country
- Interviewing for new Dean of the College of Agriculture
- Students in online graduate programs across the nation can receive ND tuition rate

ND FFA Alumni – Pam

- Tickets for the 2020 raffle have been mailed to all affiliates.
- 3500 tickets printed with 42 prizes including a Medora Package, 13 cash prizes, and 28 guns
- Drawing will be held June 8, 2020 at the Silver Prairie Saloon Banquet Hall in McLeod, ND
- By-Law change will be voted on at the annual meeting on January 4, 2020
 - o strike the words "at the North Dakota State Fair" and insert "within the State at a predetermined place and time, set at the annual meeting."

ND FFA Association - Aaron

- Successful National FFA Convention this year
- First ever State LDE and Parli Pro Day will be held November 20, 2019 at the State Capitol and the Heritage Center

- Winter Leadership – estimate 1100 students attending; elimination of the 360 conference; 101 (middle school students), 212 (Freshman–Juniors), (New this year) Blue Conference (Juniors-Seniors), (New this year) Gold Conference (limited to 40 students who wish to pursue a state office this year)
- New administrative assistant hired in a few weeks

Standing Committee Reports:

Bakk Farm – Brian/Aaron/Mike

- **Brian** reported the soybeans have been harvested and the corn has not been harvested.

Review & Policy – Misty/Preston/Alan/Christina D.

- Preston presented a recommendation for a new board make up proposal to move the Foundation to a more industry/donor direction.
- Three teacher representatives to two
- Two alumni representatives to one representative
- Members will be phased in as the current terms phase out
- Possibly changing the member numbers from 16 to 14 or 12
- Preston **moved** to have the committee make a formal proposal at the next meeting. Brian **seconded**. Motion **passed**.

Strategic Planning – Craig/Adam/Jeff/Brianna

- No report

Awards – Caleb/Craig/Pam/Mike/Christina B.

- Caleb and Christina B. reviewed Blue Jackets Bright Futures applications

Finance & Investments – Adam/Kristi/Aaron/Christina

- No report

Director’s Report – Thomas & Andrew

- Plan to host Star Partner dinners across the four quadrants of North Dakota
- Giving Hearts Day will be on February 14, 2020
 - o will not partner with 4-H for advertisements in 2020 as in previous years
 - o send physical mail to all donors from previous Giving Hearts Day
- Will be tracking the donations coming from the mailing of the newsletters
- Board Members were presented with nametags
- Would like the board to look at offering a 2021 Gala
- RDO will be sponsoring up to \$12000 of FFA Blue Jackets to all deserving female applicants in the Blue Jackets Bright Futures program; any donations over 260 jackets will be ear marked for next year’s program; these jackets will have a “50-years of women” logo ironed in the inside of the jacket
- With the partnering with Live Wire, we will be able to sell the State Convention session sponsorships: RDO (\$15,000) for the Wednesday night session, Dakota Access (\$10,000), and Ford
- Dakota Access has given a gift of \$20,000 (\$10,000 will be given to Winter Leadership and \$10,000 to the State Convention session)
- Would like to create more impact stories involving FFA
- Will be providing \$2200 toward the FFA Association Service (Meal) Project
- Will be releasing a Star Partner Disbursement Form in January
- Ag in the Classroom awarded 25 grants from 36-38 applicants
- Fall Newsletter will be printed after the State LDE Day

- State Officer “banner” (20’x10’) will be revealed at State LDE Day
- Will be present at the Big Iron Farm Show but will not have the auction
- Direct Mailing Strategy to try new ways to bring back previous donors (individuals and companies)
- Tommy attended National Convention 2019
- Beth recommended we look at a way to specifically designate memorial monies

Old Business:

- Auction Committee Report – Brianna, Kristi, Pam
 - o Met to review the history of the ND FFA Foundation/Alumni Auction. The idea originated with the Foundation and executed by the Alumni with the first auction held in approximately 2000.
 - o The split has always been 80% to the Foundation with 20% to the Alumni.
 - o Define the roles:
 - Alumni – encourage donations from local FFA affiliates and local FFA chapters since many work together on items; help with advertisement
 - Foundation – Reach out to donors; advertise
 - o General recommendations
 - Move auction to Wednesday of State Convention to encourage parents, Alumni, and vendors to support the auction; make the Alumni more visible to the students
 - Could have silent auction, live auction, and banquet in the same room
 - Keep NDSF in the forefront to avoid any hard feelings
 - Encourage online bidders
 - Need to have the sale bill printed and advertisements much earlier
 - Increase advertising
 - o Discussion was held.
 - o Ben **moved** to move the 2020 FFA Foundation/Alumni auction from the NDSF to the ND FFA State Convention in Fargo if the State Association has the logistics to make it possible. Preston **seconded**. Motion **passed**.
 - o Aaron will approach the NDSF about the change.

New Business:

- Honorary American FFA Degree nominations from the Foundation
 - o Brian nominated Fred Bakk. Kristi nominated Dr. Adam Marx. Jeff nominated Tam Maddock. Kristi **moved** nominations cease. Brianna **seconded**. Motion **passed**.

Other Business:

- Elections for the Open Board positions:
 - o Nominations were opened for the Donor/Industry position:
 - Brian nominated Rueben Weigelt.
 - Preston nominated Jason Rohr.
 - Vote was taken by secret ballot. Rueben Weigelt will be the new donor/industry representative.
 - o Nominations were opened for the Ag Teacher position:
 - Kristi nominated Glen Huettl.
 - Preston nominated Darin Spelhaug.
 - Vote was taken by secret ballot. Darin Spelhaug will be the new ag teacher representative.
- Election of Officers:

- President
 - Pam nominated Jeff Hagel.
 - Aaron **moved** nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Jeff Hagel. Kristi **seconded**. Motion **passed**.
 - Vice-President
 - Pam nominated Christina Dockter.
 - Kristi **moved** nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Christina Dockter. Brianna **seconded**. Motion **passed**.
 - Secretary
 - Preston nominated Pam Tonnessen.
 - Kristi **moved** nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Pam Tonnessen. Ben **seconded**. Motion **passed**.
 - Treasurer
 - Aaron nominated Kristi Tonnessen.
 - Preston **moved** nominations cease and cast a unanimous ballot for Kristi Tonnessen. Brianna **seconded**. Motion **passed**.
- Standing Committee Review:
- Preston **moved**. Brianna **seconded** to create a special committee called Events. Motion **passed**.
- Bakk Farm – Brian, Aaron, Jeff
 - Review and Policy – Ben, Alan, Christina D., Misty
 - Strategic Planning – Craig, Adam, Jeff, Brianna
 - Awards – Darin, Pam, Caleb, Brianna, Christina B.
 - Finance & Investments – Rueben, Kristi, Aaron, Adam
 - Events – Ben, Kristi, Pam, Christina D.
- Kristi **moved**. Preston **seconded** to adopt the standing committees. Motion **passed**.

Announcements:

- Need help giving the Blue Jackets away at Winter Leadership Conference at the Ramkota Inn – January 4, 2020 from 9:30-12:00
- Need match Donors for Giving Hearts Day
- Need headshots of new President and new members after the meeting

Next Board Meeting:

- Kristi **moved**. Ben **seconded** to set the next meeting date March 20, 2020 @ 11:00 AM with committee work at 9:00 AM at the Quality Inn in Bismarck. Motion **passed**.

Pam **moved** and Kristi **seconded** to adjourn the meeting. Motion **passed**. Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.