

Indiana Young Farmers' Association



Room 229 State House • Indianapolis, IN • 46204 • (317) 232-9178

IYFA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes 9-12-09

The meeting was called to order by President Jane Pluimer. Those in attendance were Joni Gordon, Lauri Schafer, Amber Miller, Mark Rekeweg, Kevin Ariens, Justin Waldrip, Sarah Schultz, Melissa Miller, Jenn Kindig, Kim Miller, Maria Restrepo, CJ Fleenor, Jesse Minor, Bill Long, Jena Caylor, Robin Whaley, and Mike Whaley. Joni Gordon moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Jenn Kindig seconded the motion. The motion passed. The Treasurer's Report was made by Jesse Minor. Subject to audit at a later date.

Officer Reports

CJ Fleenor spoke on changes discussed at the summer business meeting. Some of the things discussed were changes to the contest format, doing away with the summer business meeting and constitutional changes. Also changes to the format at National Convention to help get attendance up and doing away with their auction and replacing it with selling raffle tickets.

There was no unfinished business

Committee reports were presented after having broken out for individual work session. See attached for committee reports.

Finance Report read by Jesse Minor. 1st Mike Whaley and 2nd by Kevin Ariens. Motion Passed. State Fair Report read by Kevin Ariens. 1st Bill Long and 2nd by Jesse Minor. Motion Passed. State Convention read by Joni Gordon. 1st Jesse Minor and 2nd by Sarah Schultz. Motion Passed. Marketing and Membership read by Bill Long. 1st Mike Whaley and 2nd by Kevin Ariens. Motion Passed.

New Business

We discussed the direction our organization is headed with the changes being made at the DOE (Department of Education). Young Farmers/ FFA will be moving under the direction of the Department of Workforce Development.

Bill Long made a motion to give power to the State Officers team to act in determining the best options for the future of the Young Farmers program. Jenn Kindig seconded the motion. Motion Passed

Bill Long made the motion to adjourn and Jenn Kindig 2nd. Motion Passed.

State Fair Committee Report

Respectfully submitted
Kevin Ariens Chair
Justin Waldrip
Clifford Catt
Lauri Shafer

State Convention Committee Report

The programs we discussed were the Waterways with the USDA, possible canning and preserves, having Chuck Roach return, and maybe something on alternative crops. We would like to have a backdrop made for chapters to have their pictures taken in front of on Saturday night. We would also like to have the casino tables again on Saturday night along with the dance. For Friday night entertainment we will be having a lip sync contest with state officers being the "celebrity" judges. We will still have the Euchre tournament the same set up as last year. We will also have the wrist band for alcohol on Friday night. There will be an increase in convention fees to \$85.00 because we have to pay tax and tips this year.

Respectfully Submitted
Joni Gordon Chair
Sarah Schultz
Robin Whaley
Amber Miller

Marketing and Membership

Next newsletter will be online Oct. 1st. Publish list of winners of pedal pull to farm publications (Bill Long. Oct 1st membership dues have been extended to November 1st.

Free State and National membership to IYFA to current FFA dues paying members who are graduating seniors. Goal to put roster together for local chapters so they know who has membership and contact information. Put reminder in newsletter for deadline of award application so people don't forget.

FFA and IYFA joint venture still in progress. Kimmi taking pictures and Jenn writing articles for farm publications about service project the exec team is doing today. Could Lisa proofread an explanation about free FFA membership in to the IYFA and what our organization is about with room to add contact for local newspapers? Promote award program and money available in the newsletter. Potentially invite FFA Alumni to state convention for new membership. Follow up calls to donors and sponsors after Thanksgiving and Christmas per Lisa. Continue to help Purdue with speakers and help financially to attend State Convention to help them draw new members.

Respectfully submitted
Jenn Kindig
Kimmi Miller
Maria Restrepo
Bill Long

Area Reports were read and Bill Long moved to accept as read 2nd by Kim Miller. Motion Passed.

Area 1: Iroquois Valley YF has been planning the 2010 State Tour. We have talked to wind farms, Remington Hybrids, Fair Oaks, Mint Farm, Bellstra's (hogs). We have secured a meal sponsorship last week.

Jenn Kindig Area Director

Area 2: Culver Young Farmers, the active group of Area II, have been busy for the summer months. To promote agriculture, we hosted a Farmers Share Breakfast costing the public .49 cents. Several local and state politicians were invited to attend. Various displays throughout the location provided bundles of information and safety practices. A power point display showed all about the livestock production and livestock statistics. Over 230 people were served.

In June during the Culver Military Academy open house, members met at the local gas station and pumped gas for the patrons. While cleaning windshields and filling tanks, we handed out flyers explaining basic agriculture practices. With the untimely death of a local farmer, our safety display at the 4-H fair this

year concentrated on power takeoff safety. The board explained the quickness that a power takeoff shaft can wrap a person. Along with the local Farm Bureau, we hosted a young lady from Iowa who crushed her arm and the many months of therapy she endured with her PTO accident. The young farmers and their families enjoyed a day of relaxation with a picnic at Potato Creek State Park. Swimming, volleyball, hiking and biking were just a few of the activities enjoyed at the summer outing. Culver Young Farmers worked to beautify the Fulton County Fairgrounds this year as a community project. We landscaped the exhibit area with new plants and block. Labor Day weekend marks a busy time. Marshall Co. is host to the Blueberry Festival. We served ice cream to over 500,000 attendees. This year we served over 500 gallons of just blueberry ice cream. While the vanilla, chocolate, butter pecan, and moose tracks followed behind. We had a great weekend even though the 2 freezer trucks died.

Sarah Schultz, Kerry Eiler Area II co Directors

Area 3: Both chapters helped at the State Fair workday
DeKalb Chapter getting ready for the Fall Fair and running Showmen of Showmen contest

East Allen Chapter Aug 8th car cruise social
New Haven Ag Appreciation Day and Hoagland Area Assoc Day
Purchased and gave SMV's and farm safety info to area farmers and non-farmers. Planning on using info from these 2 days to help increase membership and send out further info at a later date. Special Thanks to East Allen Ag & Turf and Allen Co Farm Bureau for helping sponsor the purchase of the SMV's and safety brochures.

Mark Rekeweg Area 3 Director

Area 6: The Eastbrook Young Farmers have kept busy this spring & summer so far with all of our family activities and young farmer activities. In June, we sponsored a kids' pedal tractor pull at the Grant County 4-H Fair. We had a record number of participants and all had a good time. For our July meeting, we met at one of the members' houses where the kids could play in the water while the adults finalized the details for the Becky Stuber Memorial Ride & Drive we hosted. At the end of the ride, those in attendance were treated to a hog roast. Despite being the first year, we were pleased with the number of participants who turned out. The money raised will go towards a scholarship for a graduating senior in the spring of 2010. In addition, we hosted our Farm Fest petting zoo and wagon rides at the Van Buren Popcorn Festival during the month of August. We also had members help set up and work in the IYFA building at the Indiana State Fair. On the day that our chapter worked, we also sponsored the pedal tractor pull. Finally, we have started our fundraiser for the year by selling sandwiches and parking cars at all the Eastbrook home football games. We hope that everyone has a safe harvest this fall!!

Deana Kitts & Lauri Shafer – Area 6 Co-Directors

Area 8: worked several days at State Fair setup and State Fair. Helped FFA contest at the FFA Center and member attended the Family Retreat.

Bill Long Area Director

Area 10: Membership callout bowling, Ag day, 4th of July celebration, parked cars at the 4-H fair, Awards at the fair, various pedal pulls at the state fair, Take a Break, and a scholarship

Mike Whaley Area Director

Area 11: After a wonderful summer, Area 11 is gearing up for harvest. Hopefully the ups and downs with the weather will not affect the yields too terribly. The Brownstown Ambitious Young Farmers had a great

county fair. Their lemon shake stand at the Jackson County Fair was once again a great success. A meeting following the fair was held to discuss the success of the lemon shake stand and to make plans for the following months. A new chapter is still in the works for Hope, Indiana. Also on the horizon, another new chapter is in the works for Brownstown, Indiana. Much interest has been sparked in the area and hopefully after harvest season they will be able to get together and be able to get started.

Have a safe harvest and remember to keep your patience in check with many of them on the road.

Amber Miller, Area 11 Co-Director