



National Farm & Ranch Business Management Education Association, Inc.

...Teachers delivering knowledge that works to North America's Farm and Ranch Families

Pre-Conference Board Meeting Notes

Sunday, June 10, 2018

Attendees: Bruce Fowler, Myron Oftedahl, Deb Pike, Barry Kurtz, Brad Sirianni, David Gillman, Lori Tonak, Tina LeBrun

Meeting was called to order at 1:12pm by President Bruce Fowler.
There were no corrections or changes to the agenda.

Treasurer's Report – Myron Oftedahl

\$14,675.84 current checkbook balance

\$33,000 ~ total including investments, conference and checkbook accounts

There are some uncashed checks from conference sponsorships.

Moved and seconded to approve treasurer's report. Motion passed. (David G./Lori T.)

Membership Report given by Deb Pike

Current membership stands at 61 regular, 5 affiliate, 1 honorary compared to last year 81/9/1. Dunning letter was not sent out and that is believed to have hurt membership.

Communications Report given by Deb Pike

- A. Nuts & Bolts newsletter was published and mailed/sent out in fall & winter. There was positive feedback about articles.
- B. Website is working well, conference info is up-to-date and the website is in need of updates. Deb plans to work on it this summer.
- C. Conference communication could be better. Deadlines have been missed and some information not sent back or responded to.
- D. Briefly reviewed the annual report.
- E. Conference notebook will be loaded by the website after last minute updates completed.

National Council Report – Lori Tonak

Report on Lori's experiences while attending the last meeting. Lori reported that the current leader of the council is stressed how to serve everyone better, not just high school related Ag Ed. How can the council better serve NFRBMEA and/or colleges better? Want to discuss this at the next meeting in Lexington, KY, September 11-13. We were asked for 3 people from our board, including Lori, to attend.

Motion was made to support this effort and was passed. (Myron O./David G.)

Industry Relations – Tina LeBrun

We have received \$7,000 in conference scholarships provided by: John Deere, CFFM, PC MARS, BASE & FFSC, National Crop Insurance Services, & Vertical Solutions.



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Lack of funding meant no scholarship program to support the new/beginning FBM program for the conference.

There was discussion to have fundraising plans, contacts, etc. in place by the fall board meeting.

2018 Conference Report – Barry Kurtz

There was brief discussion on the conference. It was also shared on the difficulty of planning the conference with a third party from a long distance.

2019 Conference Report – Brad Sirianni

Brad shared that the Blue Harbor Resort Hotel at Sheboygan, WI is booked/confirmed for the 2019 conference. A video was shown that shows the area.

Recommendations/suggestions were given. Tours: Packing Plant, Creamery/Cheese Plant, Whistling Straights, Cranberry Bog, EAA in Oshkosh, Aquaculture farm.

Workshops: Favorite Excel Spreadsheets, Using Google Docs and other similar technology, Idea Sharing, Favorite Technology Apps, have similar breakout sessions.

Working w/administrators and selling your program to ??

Use Twitter, Facebook & others cooperatively for the conference.

Review Business Meeting Agenda – Bruce Fowler

General Discussion

Discussion about what we can do for our members in addition to the conference.

How can we be more relevant and provide a better experience?

Goal is to increase membership.

How can we provide resources for others relating to FBM education?

Communities of practice??

Survey the membership or others related to the conference & offerings.

What other organizations in our states can we reach out to?

Grants – are there grants we should be applying for?

Other discussion was related to how the two organizations (NFRBMEA & NAFBAS) can work better as a whole for the conference.

David – Officer Nominations: discussion on potential candidates for future board members.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:30pm (Brad/Myron).