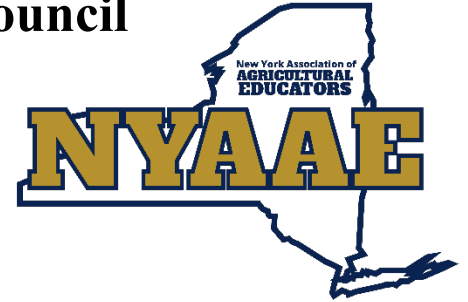


Minutes of the NYAAE Executive Council



Date - Friday, January 28, 2022

Location – Marriott Syracuse Downtown

Attendance – Virtual

Tara Berescik
Seth Browe
Chloe Fuentes
Victoria Gregory
Amy Maxwell
Chip Ax

Attendance – In-Person

Shari Lighthall
Jessica Currie
Meghan Lamb
Catie Rowe
Derek Hill
Dianne Lewis
Jeff Parnapy
Todd Eick
Crystal Aukema
Betsy Foote
Carlie Bossard
Mandi Millen
Renee Johnson
Erin Smith
Mary-Elizabeth Foote
Terry Hughes
Jeff Perry
Jan Woodworth

Meeting called to order by B. Foote at 7:03 pm

NYAAE Agenda Items

- Request for additions to the agenda
 - No additions
- Approval of [previous NYAAE minutes](#)
 - Move to approve minutes from previous meeting by T. Eick
 - Seconded by M. Foote
 - Passed
- Correspondence
 - Carly Santangelo – thank you note
 - 4 Rigorous and Relevance Scholarship recipients – thank you notes
- Committee Reports *
 - [Constitution \(NYAAE\) – D. Lewis](#)
 - Sales tax exemption status requires some new language in the constitution.

- As soon as that language is in the constitution it helps to streamline the approval. It is a by-law change and requires only a vote by the board.
- *Professional Development – M. Millen*
 - No items of action
 - Working toward conference in June with AITC

Report

2022 January NYAAE Board Meeting

Professional Development Committee Report

Chairperson –Mandi Millen, Members – Roger Barkman, Paula Burnor, Mary Coolbaugh, Megan Friscia, Deb Fletcher, Terry Hughes, Renee Johnson, Michaela Kehrer, Lisa Konnerth, Shari Lighthall, Caitlin Pauley, Jeff Perry, Catie Rowe, and Carol Wright.

Meeting Dates – September 14th, October 19th, November 16th, December 14th, January 11th

Mentor Program & New Teacher Program

Twenty-six agriculture teachers attended at 2-day new teacher program in Syracuse during September with eleven mentor teachers presenting on various topics. Mentors are currently introducing themselves through the list serve on a staggered schedule.

Virtual Professional Development Offerings

There were three virtual workshops offered this past fall. Forty-four teachers signed up for the two AET virtual workshops, and another one on LDEs was offered in November.

Rigorous and Relevant PD Scholarship

Thirty-six applications for scholarships were submitted last fall. Catie Rowe worked with CASE and Farm Credit East to distribute funds. In addition to those two sources of funding, \$14,000 in scholarships were awarded to ag teachers for Rigorous & Relevant PD.

2022 June NYAAE Conference

June Conference will be held in conjunction with the National Ag in Classroom Conference in Saratoga Springs. The subsidized double-occupancy rate will be \$510. Applications for scholarships are now open and will close February 4th. There are also scholarships for non-agriculture teachers/ag teacher partnerships.

Twelve agriculture teachers from New York submitted workshop proposals for the conference and those along with all others submitted for the national conference, are currently being evaluated. The committee is working with Katie Carpenter on the conference, including on a NY dinner for Tuesday evening.

The conference brochure has been shared, and registration should open in March which will require a credit card this year. <https://www.nysffa.org/nyaaconference>

Retention Initiative

Committee members are working on developing ideas to improve teacher retention. This includes how to help retain teachers through retirement, develop a work-life balance, and avoid burnout through a variety of platforms including Facebook, book studies, and round-table discussions.

Future Meetings – February 8th, March 8th, April 12th

- *Legislative – B. Foote*

- Very excited to be in the executive budget at level funding or higher in different areas. Senate and Assembly budget are still coming out. We are excited and humbled to be so supported
- Please make sure to stay connect to our representatives in Albany
- Still want to offer some type of legislative experiences even if we cannot be in Albany
- Will be working on a structured thank you note plan and we would like to know who will be meeting with whom so that we know which governmental officials still need to be reached out to.

Report

Legislative Committee

1/26/2022

Betsy Foote, chairperson

Tara Berescik-Burke

Mary Foote

Michelle Kline

Derek Hill

Shari Lighthall

We are excited yet humbled that each of our projects have been funded at level or have increased funding in the 2022-2023 Executive Budget. The Governor sees the value of agricultural education. In the past four years NYS Agricultural Education has grown by more than 50 agriculture programs. This increased funding will help meet the growing needs of these new programs. At this point we are waiting for the Assembly and Senate to each release their budgets to determine specific steps needed. An important thank you writing campaign is being organized to thank our many supporters who helped make this funding possible.

Because the State Leader's Experience had to be canceled due to continued COVID protocols, the Legislative Committee is encouraging all Agriculture teachers to incorporate legislative meetings within their classrooms, either in person or virtually. Some suggestions include:

- Inviting your legislator to announce and celebrate the Agriculture Incentive Grants
- Inviting your legislator to read during the Ag in the Classroom celebrations
- Include your representatives in banquet or Leadership Development Events
 - [Membership – J.Phelps, A.Maxwell](#)
 - Meeting in November – Deb and Carol are running the FaceBook.
 - Card for members to encourage going to conference.
 - Highest membership in Region VI and only 12 states in the US have more members than we do!
 - How do we go about connecting the non-members...currently, 173 members verses 364 teachers? 233 Schools have agricultural education.

Report

November 15, 2021 @3:30PM

Members Present: Cate Rowe (Staff), Amy Maxwell, Carol Wright, Deb Fletcher, Jen Phelps, Jeff Parnapy & Michaela Kehrer

Catie Rowe (Announcement): NY has highest membership in Region 6, only 12 states with higher membership in NYAAE.

- Catie has NYAAE Swag, Travel Carry On (\$200 Value), Current Inventory: 5

Move to budget \$350 and One NYAAE Travel Carry On Bag for Onward Wise Leaders (managed by Carol & Deb)

Moved: Jen Phelps

Second: Jeff Parnapy

Motion Passed

Move that email will sent to Non-NYAAE members after professional development to encourage NYAAE membership.

Moved: Jen Phelps

Second: Carol Wright

Motion Passed

Note: Jen volunteered to send email, Catie will send list of non-members participating after professional development.

Move to create 150 NYAAE Logo Cards to be used by committee to send to non-members encouraging NYAAE membership.

Moved: Jeff Parnapy

Second: Deb Fletcher

Motion Passed

Note: Catie will coordinate ordering cards, Amy will develop template for cards & Jen will merge spreadsheet of teachers/NYAAE members.

Motion to Adjourn

Moved: Jeff Parnapy

Second: Carol Wright

Motion Passed

- *Public Relations – M. Foote*
 - No report
- *Nominating Committee – T. Berescik-Burke*
 - An e-mail was sent to all teachers seeking representatives from D1/2 for Trustee and Alternate and for President-Elect. No responses have been received to T. Berescik-Burke.
- *Legal and Ethics – C. Aukema, T. Hughes*
 - No report
- *Diversity and Inclusion – J. Parnapy, C. Fuentes*
 - No report
- *Financial Committee- T. Eick*
 - 12/31/2021 - \$99,049.33
 - Committee would look at ways of investing portions – this conversation has not happened yet because things were up-in-the air. We will no more after April 1, 2022 and can look into an endowment at that point.
 - This organization has no endowment and this money has been used for things like conferences and teacher assistance is the State assistance is not received.
 - The NYAAE is fortunate to have such funds, and would make considerations into investing a portion of the funds as an endowment fund in the future, if the funding from the state would continue to be secured. The goal is to maintain all current funding from the state, and to make decisions when the information of next year's budget has been granted.
 - This will be brought before the Board for action when it is decided upon.

- Move for the acceptance of all reports by M. Foote
- Seconded by R. Johnson
- Passed

Reports

- RAENY Report
 - No report
- Postsecondary Report
 - J. Perry – 7 student teachers currently. Probably 5 in the next cycle and 3 are in stages for pre-employment. Schools are looking for teachers to hire before they student teach.
 - J. Woodworth – working on filling a position but all classes are being offered, 22 new teachers in the pipeline. Teacher certification requirements may be changed including changes to things like EdTPA and other areas.
 - C. Ax – Morrisville report – new Dean of Agriculture with some Ag backgrounds and interested in program. Some openings in faculty positions if anyone is interested. Started the semester – off and running – trying to work around Covid.
 - Empire Program – possibly 3 in the program and working on getting more. Get a Transitional A certification and teach while working.
- [Alumni Report](#) – Seth Browe

Report

NYAAE & NY FFA Board Report

The New York FFA Alumni and Supporters had a productive 2021 with several activities returning as the COVID pandemic became more manageable and restrictions on larger events began to lighten. A few highlights from 2021 include:

- 168 members, advisors and guests traveled with the Alumni and Supporters to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. The trip itinerary included stops at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and the Fair Oaks Farm Dairy & Pig Adventure.
- \$25,000 was donated by former ag teacher and a long standing FFA supporter Victoria L. Pinney-Gregory. Funds will be used to continue a scholarship for college students wishing to become agriculture educators. The gift has been deposited in a CNY Community Foundation endowment with existing Foundation and Association funds.

Additionally, \$5,000 has been raised from various donors via donation requests letters.

- \$5,000 was awarded to cover or offset expenses for high school members to attend FFA events. Funds were made available from the Association.

• 10 local Alumni and Supporter chapters received grants in 2021 from Nationals. We extended our congratulation to following chapters:

- Greenwich
- Penn Yan
- Granville
- Friends of BKW
- Mohawk Valley
- Waterville
- DeRuyter
- South Jefferson
- Schuylerville

• 170 guidebooks were distributed across the state with instructions and resources for starting an Alumni and Supporter Chapter. The development and distribution of the guidebook was made possible with help from grant funding provided by the National FFA Alumni and Supporters.

• Due to the pandemic, there were many local Alumni and Supporter Chapters involved in local fundraising due to the restrictions on high schools.

Looking ahead to 2022, we are excited to be once again hosting the Toy Auction at the NY Farm Show on February 25th. We are grateful for the continued support and look forward to the return of our usual slate of activities. Please be sure to check <https://www.nysffaalumni.org/>, social media, and your emails for updates on events, trainings, and funding opportunities. Should you have any question, please do not hesitate to reach out to myself or one of the other Alumni Officers or Board Members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Seth Browe NYAAE/NYFFA Board Member - FFA Alumni Representative
NY FFA Alumni and Supporter Board Member – Higher Education

- NYSACTE Report – Erin Smith
 - Contributed for paying to Peter Carr as a lobbyist but it was determined that this would not be kept going. There is not a specific lobbyist with NYSACTE right now.
 - Working with the Blue Ribbon Commission, graduation requirements – have been having regional meetings since December to look at requirements and what needs to be changed. Seems to a push towards hands-on, alternative assessments in addition to Regents – not just tests. Many non-CTE feel this is important.
 - Work-based-learning and content advisory panel. Working to identify workbased learning. SAE is a work-based learning opportunity.
 - Please consider applying for ACTE awards for the ACTE awards cycle.
- [NYS FFA Leadership Training Report](#) – Victoria Gregory
 - Thank you to Chip and Karen Ax for all their service.
 - We are looking for a maintenance person, head cook, camp staff, and equine people.

Report

FFA Foundation report:
V.Gregory
January 22, 2022:

-there is a new fundraising committee that will be developing and fine tuning fundraisers

-Dr. Art Berkey has donated stock. The money from the stock will be used to purchase and have installed acoustic tiles for Sentinel hall, designing and construction of a barrier free entrance to Sutliff, naming of the Pavilion as NYAAE, and naming of the Maintenance building as RAENY. A group will be researching on how to recognize people that have helped with both buildings.

-the Magic Campaign has raised \$65,000 for camperships which is enough to sponsor 8 camperships. Working on how camperships will be awarded.

-there were 679 campers last year at \$269 per camper-fee was \$290. NYAAE was hosted at Oswegatchie. Over 200 summer Camp in the box were sold, some Winter at camp boxes were also sold.

-will have a display at the NYS Farm Show, will be drawing the winner of the current Tractor raffle, Alumni will be sponsoring the Bob Watson Memorial Toy auction, winners will be announced for the Agriculture scholarships.

-on February 24 will be participating in the National Give FFA Day.
<https://giveffaday.ffa.org/pages/home-2176>

-planning on normal summer camp operations

Chip and Karen Ax will not be returning this summer; have been Camp staff for 16 years.

-there will be salary increases of \$50 per week for at least program staff

-Adirondack duck race will be in person. It will include pancakes, entertainment, and vendors. Ducks will be \$10 each.

-Winter Weekend bookings have been good, some cancellations because of the COVID.

-there is a Virtual Challenge Long Pond 100-based on 100 laps around Long Pond for a total of 350 miles. So far 118 people have signed up which has brought in \$7330.50. Last day to register is April 23, challenge ends June 30.

-new propane furnace is in for Sutliff, Foster Lodge is also on the new system, firewood needs are down to 25%, firewood is still used in the Lighthall house, Sutliff fireplace, Brown and Green cabins, Sugarhouse, and campsites.

-Sutliff attic is now insulated, should reduce energy costs by 30%, no icicles hanging from eaves

- Move to accept reports as given – J. Perry
- Second – T. Eick
- Passed

Old Business

- Regional Retention Funds
 - District 7/8 – group interactions at a winery and another activity in the spring. They will use the rest of the money for some swag
 - District 1/2 - 2 separate activities – District 1 will be downstate and is working on ideas and trying to get everything planned. District 2 will be upstate. Will be meeting with 21 members probably in Saugerties for dinner and get-to-know you stuff. Will be April 1, 2022.
 - District 3/6 – Most people do not want to go over an hour and a half so they will probably do 2 different things
 - District 4/5 – Thought about something in the fall but it did not happen. Day by Cooperstown with families is what they want to do. Something family friendly. Use an Escape Room as well. Pick-me-up-post-cards from Oswegatchie. District 5 will do an administrators breakfast in June as well.
 - District 9/10 – tour of a microbrewery and discuss CTE. Looking for Ax throwing. Money needs to be spent June and everything should be identified by March 1.
- Board Insurance – Payment Processed – T. Hughes
 - Completed

New Business-

- Bylaws Amendment- Tax Exemption- D. Lewis;
Article IX
Dissolution

Section A Dissolution provision In the event of dissolution, all of the remaining assets and property of the corporation shall after necessary expenses thereof be distributed to such organizations as shall qualify under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; or to the federal government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose; or to another organization to be used in such manner as the judgment of a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York determines will best accomplish the general purposes for which this organization was formed.

Section B Non-inurement provision No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, director, officer of the organization, or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the organization), and no member, trustee, officer of the organization or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the assets on dissolution of the organization.

Section C Restrictive legislation provision No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided by section 501(h) of the Internal Revenue Code), as amended, nor shall the organization participate in, or intervene (including the publication or distribution of statements), in any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

Section D Restrictive purposes and activities provision Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation is organized exclusively for one or more of the following purposes: religious, charitable, scientific, testing for public safety, literary, or educational purposes, or to foster national or international amateur sports competition (but only if no part of its activities involve the provision of athletic facilities or equipment), or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals, as specified in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) or corresponding provisions of any subsequent Federal tax laws.

- Move to adopt the by-law change pertaining to the tax exemption status – J. Parnapy
- Seconded by M. Foote
- Adopted
- [ACTE National Policy Seminar](#)- March 21-23, Washington, DC, [Agenda](#)
 - T. Eick moves to send M. Foote to DC and NYAAE will cover all expenses
 - Seconded by D. Lewis
 - Passed
 - Move the NYAAE cover C. Rowe to attend the National Policy Seminary
 - Seconded by J. Woodworth
 - Passed
- NYAAE Awards Recognition/ Business Session- T. Hughes
 - Proposed timeline for Awards
 - March 1st – Recommendations due to Terry Hughes
 - April 1st – State applications due
 - April 5th – Evaluation process begins
 - April 15th – Winners notified
 - May 10th – Award to NAAE

- May 15th – Deadline for NAAE
- June 28th – NYAAE Award Winners recognized
 - There has been a modification in the awards program
 - Combining cooperation and service into 1 award
 - Lifetime achievement will be left as is – aimed for teachers

New tool – Catie Rowe - find legislators by address of the school. Click on the school and all information is available. This will be made live later on in the year for schools to use.

T. Hughes – 60 teachers still came/are coming to Syracuse for professional development this weekend even with the student portion canceled. AET and the Vet Science still have some space in them Saturday afternoon.

Move to adjourn

- Moved by T. Eick
- Seconded: by T. Hughes
- Passed at 8:36 pm

Future Meeting Dates:

April 7th 2022 3:30pm - Virtual
June 2, 2022 3:30pm (NYAAE)