



NH Young Farmers
MEETING AGENDA – FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2016 AT 7 P.M.
Location: NHFB Office, 295 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, NH
-UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES-

PRESENT:

Jill Dumont, Shawn Bersaw, Christina Murdock, Jason Pritchard, Landon Woodward & Jocelyn Therrien of Merrimack County
Amy & Brian Matarozzo, Alden Dill & John Fernald of Rockingham County
Tyler Allen of Strafford County
Staff: YF Co-Coordinators Leandra Pritchard & Josh Marshall

Amy Matarozzo, Chair brought the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

I. MINUTES – FEBRUARY 12, 2016 - YF MEETING

Shawn Bersaw MOTIONED to approve the February 12, 2016 minutes as presented. **Jill Dumont SECONDED.**
VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

II. OLD BUSINESS

1. Report of the Chair, Amy Matarozzo and Vice Chair, Christina Murdock

Amy attended the February NHFB Board meeting and reported that there is an ongoing membership drive and to remind our counties to nominate Young Farmers for the state YF awards. She also mentioned that Glen Putnam of Grafton County is the first farm in NH to use a special veteran label on his products since he serves in the military.

2. Financials

The group was presented the updated financial report with info through February.

Jay Pritchard MOTIONED to approve the financial report as presented. **John Fernald SECONDED.**

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

3. Project Reports

• Community Service

○ Harvest For All

The beef calf will be processed the end of April and Amy & Brian will get the meat back in May. Once they find out the hanging weight, they will be able to have the group figure out distribution to local pantries.

Due to this unique donation, we will apply for Most Innovative award for the Harvest For All program with AFBF in 2017.

• Promotion & Education

○ 2016 Animal Husbandry Award

The group was reminded to nominate their fellow Young Farmers for this award. It was suggested that we contact some chemical companies to donate to the prize winner; we hope they would be encouraged by this award and that YF is trying to promote sound animal husbandry. Companies such as Zoetis/Pfizer, Blue Seal, and Poulin were suggested. Christina will contact her Boehringer-Ingelheim representative to see if they might be interested in sponsoring this award.

○ NH Ag Literacy Day

The group bought 10 NH Ag in the Classroom books. Amy took 4, Josh 1, Jay 1, and Landon 1. They will either bring them to a school and read them or drop them off at their area schools for the teachers.

• Member Outreach

○ NH FFA Conference – Friday, April 15 at 8:30pm

We are waiting to hear back if the hotel will allow us to bring ice cream to the conference. If not, we are hoping to borrow a prize wheel from Tony at Farm Family and give out NHFB stickers and candy. One participant will win a NHFB student membership. Amy, Jill, Christina, Alicia, Josh and Leandra are planning on attending. We will schedule a conference call for Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00pm to finalize details for this event and for the Legislative Breakfast.

- *Summer Games – Saturday, August 13 or 20, Loudon*

NY and VT Farm Bureaus are interested in attending. We will need lots of volunteers to participate and help figure out the games. We will work on logistics in the coming months once the date is finalized.

- **Fundraising**

- *Calendar for 2017*

We are planning on printing a calendar for 2017 to support YF. We will try to get some advertisements to pay for the printing and sell the calendars starting at the NHFB Annual Meeting. We can use photos from the photo contest and photos from our young farmers. Printer suggestions were Concord Photo Shop and Ben Franklin Printers. September 1st will be deadline for photos so we have time to get the calendar ready and printed for November.

- *Spring NHFB Office Yard Cleanup*

The date the group agreed on was Sunday, May 29 which is Memorial Day weekend (this date might be changed because of that issue). They asked to order a little more mulch than last year.

- **Legislative**

- *Legislative Breakfast – Thursday, April 21 at Alden Dill's in Deerfield*

Erick Sawtelle and his crew from Strafford County will prepare the meal for us. We will buy bacon and sausage from SCFB. We will ask Denis Ward to donate some milk. Landon is willing to donate eggs, Alden & Shawn will donate maple syrup, and Phil Ferdinando will donate potatoes. Plan on 30 – 40 people for food. Josh ordered a portable toilet for that day. We will probably need two parking helpers since there isn't much room at the sugarhouse to park. We will hold a conference call on April 12 to prepare what we want to say.

- *Mock Public Hearing at NH Legislative Offices*

Josh talked to Rob Johnson about setting up a day to hold the mock hearing. Rob said that in the summer months when they aren't in session would be the best time. We hope to get a few representatives to partake in this training.

4. NY Leadership Conference

Amy Matarozzo, Christina Murdock, Alicia Pedemonti, Glen Putnam, Josh Marshall, and Leandra Pritchard attended the NY Celebration of Ag Conference on Friday, March 11 to Saturday, March 12, in Syracuse, NY. They had a good time and each got a few things out of the workshops. They want to encourage their county Farm Bureaus to use the FB University/Builder. They learned that you don't have to do anything terribly difficult to advocate for ag – even small things can help the cause.

5. Young Farmer By-laws

A digital copy of the Young Farmer Constitution from 1979 is now available. It will require a lot of modification to fit what we do nowadays.. They suggested we talk to other young farmer groups in New England to see if their by-laws are more current and we could model ours after them. Those who volunteered to help in February were: John, Alicia, Amy and Shawn.

6. Other Old Business

There was a discussion about the attack on biosolids going on in social media.

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. "Fat Free Meetings" handout

A handout from the national YF&R conference in February. Gives good ideas on how to trim down meetings. Suggests to send previous meeting minutes and financial statements ahead of time, to save a few minutes during the actual meeting.

- Member Outreach/P&E Ideas:** Barnstead Open Farm Day table in July, Concord Farmers' Market table, Profile a young farmer each week/month on Facebook (#FridayFeaturedFarmer), Farm fact each week on Facebook, Merrimack YMCA indoor market

These were all ideas from the NY conference. They like the idea of having a table at the Barnstead Open Farm Day on July 23. Suggested to try to do Market Days in Concord. Jill will take info to Bristol's event in May. Brian is the Vice Chair of the P&E Committee for the state. It was voted to make stickers with YF info on them to give out at events like these, especially ones with kids.

3. Next meeting – TBD

Amy & Brian are willing to host the next YF meeting in end of April/May.

4. Other New Business

A few ag-related job openings were passed around to the group.

IV. ADJOURN

Jill Dumont MOTIONED to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. and Alden Dill SECONDED.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Respectfully Submitted,

Leandra Pritchard, YF Co-Coordinator