



Montana FFA Alumni & Supporters

502 South 19th Ave
Suite 113
Bozeman, MT 59718

alumni@montanaffa.org
MontanaFFA.org

Montana FFA Alumni Meeting Zoom Meeting, March 9th, 2022

The March 9th, 2022 meeting of the Montana FFA Alumni Association was called to order at 7:00 PM over the virtual meeting platform, Zoom.

Secretary McKenna Quirk posted the minutes from the January 2022 meeting. They will be approved, along with these minutes, at the next meeting.

Officer Reports:

Executive report

Mike would like to get the roster updated at the State level and continue to reach out to people regarding who their contacts are at the chapter level so that we can standardize our roster. Hopefully, we can then use the roster in the future as a communication tool once it is fully updated. We will also be starting to update the website.

District Representative Reports

Western (Sandy Everson)

Sandy has been in contact with new contacts as well as the advisors at Mission Valley FFA and has a new contact for Deer Lodge FFA. She is working really hard to get Hot Springs FFA to start its Alumni Chapter. Hot Springs FFA is hosting one of the district contests for the Western District, so Sandy will be there to talk to some of the parents about starting an Alumni Chapter.

The other chapters are getting going on fundraising for the spring to help their students go on various trips. Sandy will forward over contacts once she has them so they can be updated in the roster.

Southwestern (Kirsten Swensen)

There are 15 chapters in the district Southwestern District, and 10 of those chapters have active alumni and supporter groups. Kirsten needs to review their various contacts.

The advisor in Harlowton has assured her that they will begin building their alumni chapter soon. The Three Forks FFA has a new teacher, and the Lima FFA has reactivated their chapter.

Kirsten helped to judge at the District Greenhand contest in Sheridan, and she will be attending the alumni meeting on March 14th.

The Beaverhead FFA had their Alumni dinner and auction (they raised \$20,000), and Kirsten has been working with Mr. Igo on historical aspects and interviewed two alumni members from the 1950s.

Kirsten has worked with the Livingston/Park Alumni and has been going to their meetings as they are reworking their bylaws. Cassie Corrigan is the new advisor there now, and the administration asked if Kirsten could put together an advisory council for the Chapter. Mr. Tilleman will be helping with that.

The Gardiner FFA has a great group of supporters, and just had a successful Valentine's Day auction.

The Townsend FFA Alumni is hosting an online auction. They meet twice a year and touch base a lot electronically. They also held a high-end dessert auction during a home basketball game that was very successful.

Kirsten has been trying to keep things up to date on Facebook, as we need to get volunteers for upcoming contests. Kirsten recommended following Alumni groups on Facebook to stay up to date on what they are doing.

The Twin Bridges FFA only has one teacher, so Kirsten is sitting on an advisory committee there as well to help with their transition. She will put together the contact information of those folks in those chapters to send to Mike and McKenna to update.

Glacier

No report.

Eastern (Gracie Tooke)

Gracie will be meeting Mr. Igo next Wednesday to help him get an alumni chapter started, and she will be reaching out to Mike and Kirsten for help with setting up a chapter for them.

Gracie will be judging at CDE Days, and will use that as a networking stepping stone and will have more to share at the next meeting.

Business

State Convention Planning

Hospitality Room

The hospitality room is taken care of through campus catering. Kirsten and Mike spoke the other day and they will be putting together advertising for the room about the Alumni, and how to get involved with the Alumni.

Silent Auction

Mike is going to send an email out statewide to the advisors just as a reminder that that is happening and that we are looking forward to receiving the projects that they would like to contribute. It will be in the Fireplace room in the SUB.

Local Chapter Representatives at Alumni Meeting

The District Representatives were encouraged to reach out to local Alumni groups and ask them to send a representative to our meeting on Friday morning during State Convention. This year our meeting at State Convention is a regular meeting, but moving forward, this will be our annual business meeting and we would like to see as much participation as possible. We will use this as an opportunity to reach out to chapters in the state at our district competitions to see if they are interested in coming by the meeting. A sign could be placed in the hospitality room and at the store to invite folks to the meeting at 11:00 AM on Friday. We will be meeting in the Fireside room where the store is at.

FFA.org Roster Training – Ben Meyer

Mike reached out to see if there is an opportunity to have a few roster trainings at State Convention. Once Ben confirms that he will be at State Convention, Mike will organize times to have roster trainings during the week.

Meeting & Social Event

Our meeting is scheduled for 11:00 AM Friday morning in the Fireside Room in the SUB. This is just a regular meeting with no major business or anything to be tackled, but we would like to see as many people there as possible. Last year, Mike tried to start a tradition of going out to supper afterward, so we will plan to do this.

Alumni Store

The Alumni Store will be located in the Fireplace Room with the Silent Auction items. The Laurel FFA Chapter will handle the majority of the staffing of the store. Lori Kraft with the Laurel chapter will be handling that, and Mike just got an email about their plan.

Lori is expecting to be in Bozeman around 2:00 PM on Wednesday during the week of the State Convention, and since there are quite a few of us here in Bozeman, we can have the stuff from the storage unit there at the SUB when they arrive. Gracie will be coordinating getting into the storage unit and bringing the items over to the SUB. Mike will ask Laurie if she could send a list of all of the stuff she needs from the storage unit. Gracie will text Kirsten if she needs help with transferring the items to the SUB.

Lori said that they need staffing for Thursday. Mike will be sending out a signup sheet for folks to sign up for shifts to work at the store. Lori also needs people from 8 AM to 10 AM on Friday, but our group should be able to cover it. We need a plan on Saturday to get boxes taken back to the storage unit, and Gracie will also work on that.

Kirsten will be organizing the change box and the convenience items (nylons, chapstick, hairspray, etc). We talked about using Square, so Kirsten will be talking with Emily about how that is going to work. Laurie was wondering if we issue receipts with the sales. We could use the cash register if we are able to find it in the storage unit. Square does do emailed receipts, but for cash purchases, we would need the paper receipts that Laurie can bring.

Kirsten will do an inventory check on things in the storage unit to see what we have.

Retiring State Officer Name Badges

It has been a tradition that the Alumni Association purchase these name badges for the State Officers. Traditionally the treasurer handles this, and we go through the Foundation Office because they get a discount off of Montana Silversmith's merchandise. Kirsten will get these ordered. McKenna and Gracie will write cards to go with the pins.

Officer Elections

Treasurer

We had a nomination on the table for Kirsten Swensen to be our new Montana FFA Alumni Association Treasurer.

Emily moved to accept the nomination, with the stipulation that Kirsten remain in her position as a District Representative. Sandy seconded the motion. Mike and Sandy both endorsed her through discussion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Other

Remember to send in reimbursements to Mike for traveling! Remember too that district reps have a \$50 budget for meetings!

Kirsten will be ordering blue collared shirts and blue vests tomorrow (March 10th) for Gracie and McKenna.

Announcements-

- March 21st – 23rd CDE Days in Miles City – Judges Needed!
- March 30th - April 2nd is State FFA Convention (Spring Meeting) in Bozeman
- Alumni Meeting 11:00 AM April 1st - Fireside Room

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 PM.