

**Minutes of the NYSACAA Board Meeting
CCE of Tompkins County Office, Ithaca, NY
December 5, 2006**

Members Present: Cathy Wickswat – Rensselaer, John Ameroso – NYC, David Chinery – Rensselaer, Lisa Kempisty – Chautauqua, Monika Roth – Tompkins, Molly Ames – Jefferson, Julie Kickertt – Canandaigua, Bernadette Logozar – Franklin, Frans Vokey – Lewis

Members Excused: Paul Cerosaletti – Delaware

The meeting was called to order at 4:45 pm by Past-President Cathy Wickswat.

Secretary's Report:

- Lisa discussed minutes of the previous meeting (10-4-06). Cathy noted Paul's concern regarding the need for a balanced budget. **A motion to accept the minutes was passed.**
- Lisa discussed member's handbook, which is also available on-line.

Treasurer's Report:

- See attached report.
- Cathy concerned that NYSACAA has lost \$1,000 to 1,500 per year for the last 2 years and that money has been drawn from reserves (approx. \$17,000) to balance the budget. Molly added that we should strive to balance inflows and outflows each year and to consider more productive uses of reserve money. Lisa added that reserves will be needed when NYS hosts its next national conference and suggested that a balance sheet be presented at each annual meeting.
- **Cathy suggested that a committee be formed to work on this issue and board agreed. A motion for Molly to chair this committee was passed.** Cathy and Frans offered to assist. Other members suggested to complete this committee were Peggy Murray (Lewis) and Steve Hadcock.

Membership Update:

- Cathy handed out the most recent membership list provided by membership chair Steve Hadcock. **Cathy will ask Steve to re-send update to Board members.**
- The National Association membership deadline of January 1st appears not be solid as we have been told they will recognize the old March deadline this year.
- We currently have about 55 members for 2007 (52 full members) and need 76 to award two DSA winners.
- Discussion about how to proceed with increasing membership
 - o **Board members will start by contacting past members in their district using info provided by Steve.**

Reports from Districts:

- Capital (David)
 - o This district has plans for meetings throughout the year (February, March, May, June and December) including meetings that will be done jointly with the Southeast district. Many meetings include a tour
 - o Recently held a joint meeting for Ag and Human Ecology staff with invited guest Brian Wansink, author of "Mindless Eating."
- Northern (Bernadette)
 - o Have not met. Will look at opportunities to do professional development in NNY
- Western (Julie)
 - o Have not met.
- Southeast (John)
 - o Mentioned the recent annual meeting. Was disappointed in turnout from Agents in own district. Hope to work with Capital district on future joint meetings.
- Central (Monika)
 - o Have not met.

NYSACAA Display:

- Farm Bureau annual meeting:
 - o NYSACAA display will not go because there is no room left

- NYS Ag Society meeting (January 11, 2007):
 - o Cathy brought up the upcoming meeting and suggested we consider joining the Society and having a booth there. Helene Dillard has urged NYSACAA to do this to make more people aware of this organization. They expect 175 people and one of the 25 discussion topics is “CCE: How Critical is it to the future of NYS Agriculture.”
 - o A motion to join the Ag Society (\$20) was passed unanimously.
 - o Monika and Lisa will represent us there. Monika will send an e-mail to membership inviting 2 more members to attend and work the booth during breaks. The board passed a motion to cover the cost of registration (but not lunch) of two other willing members.
- NYS Council of Ag Organizations (January 12, 2007):
 - o Dean Dillard has urged the NYSACAA president to attend and for the Association to become a member.
 - o Lisa will contact Paul and then Helene about this
- Empire Farm Days (August 7-9, 2007)
 - o Monika will contact the Cornell point person to ask about planning meetings.
 - o Monika suggested that the EFD exhibit must be interactive in order to stand out and engage more people. Ideas include having a computer to demonstrate the web site or to organize the exhibit by commodity group. In the past, having fact sheets (mainly home & grounds) and contact information for local Extension staff was helpful.

DSA & AA Winners for 2007

- DSA: Lee Telega and David Chinery
- AA: Paula Schafer
- Cathy expressed concern over current nomination process and board agrees. Lisa will talk to Awards chair Jim Grace about formalizing this process.

2007 Goals:

1. Continue to broaden PR – develop a display for Empire Farm Days
2. Support for college positions and possibly for positions that do not currently exist (e.g. vegetable post-harvest, milk marketing specialist)
3. Improve the nomination process for DSA and AA.
4. Promote district opportunities for professional development
5. Form a committee to review budget and determine a future plan
6. Take a role in New Staff and Executive Director orientation.

Meeting Schedule:

March	20-21	Albany
May/June	Paul to suggest	Ithaca
September	6 (day)	Videoconference
October	10-11	Ithaca
December	4	Ithaca

Other Business

- Cathy proposed resurrecting a periodic newsletter to NYS membership to inform membership of NYSACAA activities. Members encouraged her to move ahead with this.
- Bernadette suggested NYSACAA be visible at the New Staff Orientation and Executive Director orientation. Members agreed.
- David suggested NYSACAA have a t-shirt designed and potentially used as a fund raiser. David will take the lead on finding out about design and production options for t-shirts.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Frans Vokey
NYSACAA Secretary

Treasurer's Report
12-5-06

Current Balance:

CD	\$10,354.76
Savings	6,798.26
Checking	4,939.63

Highlights:

Income	\$8,824.08	(\$5695 dues for 06&07)
Expenses	\$10,483.28	

Income

'07 Dues	\$2,430.00
Annual Mtg, LI	1,978.00
'06 Dues	1,940.00
Cornell (1st timer)	1,000.00
Spag Dinner/Auc	601.50

Expenses

'06 Dues submission	\$3,930.00
Annual Mtg, LI	1,988.62
NACAA	1,578.12
Nat'l mtg – 1st timers	1,000.00
NYSACAA officers	549.13
Prof. Service	350.00
Membership recog.	400.00