

NAAE Region VI Conference  
Business Meeting Minutes  
6/24/09

The NAAE Region VI Conference Business Meeting was called to order by Region VI Vice-President Ken Couture at 1:08 PM in the Boardroom of the Radisson Hotel in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Robin McLean (NJ) moved to adopt the agenda with flexibility. Seconded by Bethany Royer (CT). Motion passed.

Andrew Anderson (NH) moved to adopt the 2008 NAAE National Convention Region VI Business Meeting Minutes as presented. Seconded by Krista Pontius (PA). Motion passed.

Ken Couture welcomed everyone to the conference. He thanked the New England Ag Teachers and the Massachusetts FFA Association for hosting the conference.

Ken expressed greetings from the NAAE Board of Directors.

Next, Ken handed out the conference attendance roster, NAAE State Officer Roster and letters of appreciation forms to the members. Ken reminded the members how important it is for them to complete the forms and hand them back in as quickly as possible.

Ken announced State Conference dates and passed out NAAE State Association Award Forms. The forms are due September 1, 2009.

Ken then discussed with the members the mission of NAAE and the benefits of belong to the organization. He emphasized the opportunities provided by NAAE for Professional Development through webinars, seminars and workshops.

Ken called on Julie Fritsch, NAAE Communications and Marketing Coordinator to give an update of NAAE activities and report on the Communities of Practice (COP) program. Julie gave a presentation on how to access the resources provided by the program. Julie also provided information about new products such as the new Teach Ag Brochure offered by NAAE.

Next, Ken called Kevin Keith, National FFA LPS Specialist to report on National FFA current issues and news. Kevin reported on staff changes at the National FFA office and new FFA programs.

Ken then moved to Issues and Concerns.

First Ken talked about NAAE and State membership numbers. It is important that teachers look closely at the benefits offered by NAAE.

Next, Ken gave a report on the National NAAE Convention being held in Nashville, TN November 17-21, 2009.

- Early Bird Registration due by July 15, 2009
- The Gaylord Hotel – Room Rate \$169/night +taxes and fees.

Ken then announced the Committee Chairperson Assignments

Finance –	Bethany Royer (CT)
Policy & Bylaws-	Pam Berlekovic (CT)
Marketing	Mike Harrington (MD)
Public Policy	Sara Beth Wanbaugh (PA)
Member Service	Tim Gustafson-Byrne (VT)
Professional Growth	Robin McLean (NJ)
Strategic Planning	Krista Pontius (PA)

Ken encouraged every member to serve on a committee. The committees will meet tonight after dinner.

Mike Harrington (MD) gave a report on the 2010 Conference. The conference will be held in Rockville, Maryland July 6-9, 2010. Conference attendees will have the opportunity to travel to Capitol Hill to meet with members of the US Congress.

Ken asked for members to help judge NAAE Award applications.

Next, Ken presented NAAE Certificates to the New England Ag Teachers Conference Committee members for their outstanding performance in planning and organizing the Region VI conference. The members recognized were: Vincent Anton (MA), Jenna Dube (NH), Kim LaFleur (MA), Rick Martineau (NH), and Gail Kiley Sanders(VT).

State President Reports

Pam Berlekovic (CT) reported that Connecticut has 73 active NAAE members and 5 student members. The CT Annual Teachers meeting will be held August 18 -19, 2009. Pam also announced that Greg Kane, Connecticut State Ag. Ed. Consultant retired.

Mike Harrington (MD) reported that Maryland has 53 members. The MD Summer Conference will be held July 7-10, 2009 in Westminster, MD. The Maryland Ag. Teachers Association is working hard planning the 2010 Region VI Conference.

Ken recessed the business meeting at 1:50 PM.

Vice-President Ken Couture called the business meeting back to order at 7:00 PM.

Ken presented NAAE State Professional Awards to the Maine and New Hampshire Teachers Associations.

Next, Ken called on Kevin Keith to report on the National FFA Convention, Alumni News and changes in the FFA Chapter Award and College Scholarship programs.

Julie Fritsch shared with the members a Power Point Presentation on new resources and programs provide by NAAE. Julie shared information about National Teach Ag Day being sponsored by NAAE. National Teach Ag Day will be held in February.

Following the reports, Ken called on the Ideas Unlimited Award candidates to present their projects to the members.

Debra Siebert (PA) gave her presentation first followed by Robin McLean (NJ).

Debra Siebert's presentation was entitled "Heirloom Tomato Plants Niche Marketing Project". Robin McLean presentation was entitled "Ice Cream Making as a Summative Activity".

The winner will be announced later after the NAAE Executive Board Meeting in July.

Ken made announcement about committee meetings, award application judging, and letters of appreciation forms.

Ken adjourned the meeting at 8:40PM.

Respectfully submitted;

Michael Harrington (MD)  
NAAE Region VI Secretary