

Groton Agricultural Advisory Board Meeting

November 26, 2018

People present: Dan Carey, Stephanie Hume, Sallee Ten Eyck, Jason Oliver, Art Berkey, Sophia and Nick Darling, Sheldon Clark, Faye Benson, Dr. Paul Coen

- A. Call to order at 6:05pm
- B. Approval of September 10, 2018 minutes
 - a. approved by Art Berkey
 - b. seconded by Dan Carey
- C. Treasurer's report
 - a. Sallee submitted the treasurer's register
 - b. There is a \$1716.88 balance
- D. Teacher report by Jason Oliver
 - a. Application for the Ag Incentive proposal was shared by Jason
 - i. introduces next year's course offerings and supplies that may be needed
 - ii. had good conversations with the new counselor
 - iii. administration and Jason and Derek will organize small tour of other ag programs offered in the state to help get students interested in the program
 - b. A few of the students are FFA members through the BOCES chapter
 - c. Classroom/Course offerings
 - i. Introduction to Ag class offered during the regular class day as a 40 minute class
 - ii. Introduction to Ag class offered during the STEAM block course (2 consecutive periods) schedule that will run for half of the year and then
 - iii. other topics could be: animal science, food products and food processing, and horticultural
 - iv. animal science will be offered next year due to student interest
 - d. Hoop house/high tunnel construction is taking shape amid the questionable weather
 - e. Talk of putting in an outdoor classroom up at the elementary school and a pond (in the fields to the south)
 - i. monies are through a Tompkins County grant (less than \$10,000)
 - f. SAE (Supervised Agricultural Experience) projects-just beginning the conversations
 - i. really focusing energy on good timing to meet as a FFA, which is challenging with the lack of an activity period
 - g. Wants to begin doing some field trips; finding time that works for everyone/majority of students is difficult
 - h. An interest in selling pumpkins as a fundraiser

- i. Robert Houston's parents have expressed possible small section of land for growing purposes
- E. Oswegatchie Education Center
 - a. Art gave us an update as to the educational center and the need for monies for a needed update to the center
 - b. Proposing that we donate \$250 to the center for the capital campaign from the Groton Agricultural Program this year, and possible consideration for the next two years as well
 - c. Facebook is matching monies
 - d. seconded by Paul Coen
 - e. through discussion, as smaller amount would better be accepted
 - f. all accepted this proposal (minus Sophia Darling who had to leave)
- F. Adjourn:
 - a. Next meeting scheduled for at Monday, January 28, 2019 at 6:00pm (Groton Jr/Sr High School-Room 302)
 - b. Meeting adjourned motioned by Stephanie Hume and seconded by Faye Benson at 7:30pm