**GROTON NY AGRICULTURE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**February 10, 2021**

**Members Present:**

Sallee TenEyck

Monica Carey

Kathy Howard

Jason Oliver

Martin Slade

Dan Carey

Melissa Hill

Derek Hill

**Meeting Opened at 6pm**

**Treasure Report:**

Balance $7,812.67

**Farmer Challenge**

Board Agreed to move the Farmer Challenge to February 2022

**Mission Statement**

We agreed that it should be for the full program.

Marty will create a draft and will share with the board to revise as needed.

**FFA Alumni Group Report**

Dan has been working on the Groton FFA alumni list.

Ideas to get them engaged in the future:

* Invite them to an FFA summer event (maybe the tractor show event?)
* Host an alumni dinner
* Host an alumni summer picnic
* Potentially sending a letter in the near future to start the process and find out if there is interest for any of these activities.

**Camp Oswegatchie Duck Race**

Art Berkey donated his Duck Bucks credit from Camp O to our FFA program- estimated at $100

The 2021 Duck race will be on April 25, 2021- Ducks can be purchased now here <https://form.jotform.com/Oswegatchie/2021-buy-ducks-prime>

When you purchase ducks ($10 per duck) you can pick an FFA chapter to get credit for your duck sales. This gets the chapter 50% back in “Duck Bucks”

**Groton FFA Advisor Report**

Groton will most likely participate in the State Convention, board will cover the $50 chapter registration fee.

STEAM students have been doing CDE contest to get familiar with how those work.

Farm Bureau scholarship- Jason has handed out the application, there are eligible scholarships in addition to students getting a free membership. There are county & state level scholarships.

Jason received a $750 grant for Bio Tech professional development and hopes to have the ability to develop Bio Tech capacities at the school. In addition to this Jason would like to incorporate Bio Tech in all of his classes, there is a lot of opportunity with Cornell here: advance breeding technics, etc.

Hoping to set the apiary this year, a previous student worked on getting the hive structures ready last year.

The Houston’s will bring a calf to be at the school for a short period of time for the students to take care of. Working on putting a little holding pin.

**Heated Greenhouse**

The project is currently at a standstill. Jason still has the $5,000 grant.

It is unknown at this time if the Park foundation grant is still available for this purpose.

The board proposed supporting the greenhouse project by matching the $5,000 grant.

Marty, Dan & Derek will reach out to Margo Martin to discuss the future of this project.

**Next Meeting:** April 7 at 6pm