

**BERKS AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE
NETWORK (B.A.R.N.)**

Minutes of the November 22, 2016 Meeting
6:30 p.m.
Virginville Grange Hall
456 Main Street, Virginville, PA 19564

In attendance:

B.A.R.N. Members:

B.A.D. Farm – Beth Rice
Berks County Conservation District – Tammy Bartsch
Berks County Department of Agriculture – Amanda Burkard-Sell and Tami Hildebrand
Berks County Sheep & Wool Growers – Roger Bowman
Berks County Society of Farm Women – Betsy Sattazahn
F.M. Browns’ Sons, Inc. – Carl Brown
Fulton Bank –Keith Silfee
Gunster, Carolyn
Gelsinger, Larry
Hartman, Chris – Hartman, Valeriano, Magovern & Lutz, P.C.
Hopkins, Lloyd
Hughes, Bill
Penn State Extension – Mat Haan
Rice, Beth
Rothermel, Gary
Sattazahn, Robert
Senator Judy Schwank – Jamie Klein
Thun, David
Winterside Farm – Nancy Bowman

Guests:

Moyer, Brian – Penn State Extension, Lehigh County
Scheid, Lisa - Reading Eagle / Berks Country
Wible, Tonya – PA Friends of Ag Foundation

I. Welcome

II. American Pledge of Allegiance - The group Pledged Allegiance to the Flag

III. Minutes of the September 27, 2016 Board Meeting

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the September 27, 2016 BARN Board Meeting. (Bill Hughes, Keith Silfee)
Motion carried.

IV. Treasurer’s Report

Bill Hughes presented the Treasurer’s report.
A motion was made to accept the Treasurer’s report. (Lloyd Hopkins, David Thun)
Motion carried.

A motion was made to drop those members who have not paid dues for two years (2015 and 2016) at the end of the year; those who have been removed will not receive regular mailings, instead they will receive an annual newsletter with dues notice; Bill Hughes will provide list of those who have been removed at next meeting.
(Chris Hartman, Bob Sattazahn)

Motion carried.

V. Committees General Announcements

A. Update - 2016 BARN Farm Tour & Coupon Drawing

Amanda Burkard-Sell provided statistics from the 2016 Farm Tour. Beth Rice and Roger Bowman gave updates of how the tour went at their farms; volunteers, including Betsy Sattazahn and Gary Rothermel, also added their comments.

B. Update – 2017 BARN Career Fair

Carolyn Gunster provided an update:

Location will stay at the Ag Center for 2017

Invitations to Exhibitors will be sent January with a deadline in February

Funds for the event were discussed; the County covers the cost of the booklet

A motion was made to allocate \$800.00 to the 2017 Career Fair.

(Bill Hughes, Chris Hartman)

Motion passed

C. Update – 2017 BARN Bountiful Berks Banquet

Carl Brown provided an update:

The Bountiful Berks Banquet committee will meet on December 8th at 2:00 pm in the 4-H Room of the Ag Center; committee will set up time-line, budget and so forth;

Banquet is scheduled for October 27, 2017;

There will be six grazing stations;

Each main course will have vegetables and/or other items;

Looking for a commitment for appetizers;

The Berks County Chamber of Commerce will participate.

VI. Old Business

A. Update – Drone demonstration at a future B.A.R.M. meeting

David Thun gave update:

Wait until spring

B. Update – BARN at Reading’s Holiday Parade

Tami Hildebrand gave update:

No volunteers committed, therefore BARN did not participate in the parade this year

C. Update – BARN at the Reading Royals Ag Night

Tami Hildebrand gave update:

Event is Friday, January 7, 2017 – “Purple Goes Green”;

The following people committed to tickets: Carl Brown - 8 tickets; Roger Bowman - 6 tickets;

Amanda Burkard-Sell - 2 tickets; Tammy Bartsch - 2 tickets

D. Update – 2017 BARN Tour Region

Tami Hildebrand gave update:

Area will be Ontelaunee Orchard and East

Tami has talked with three farmers who would like to participate

VII. New Business

A. 2017 BARN Meeting calendar

Lloyd Hopkins suggested the Executive Committee meet to schedule 2017 meeting dates and times

B. National Ag Day Sponsorship Request – Dept. of Ag

C. 2017 BARN Annual Meeting Location

Potential locations were discussed

VIII. Other Items – BARN Members Comments/Questions

Jamie Klein

Jamie has taken the Ag Essay Contest with her to Senator Schwank’s office; she asked for questions to ask as well as volunteers to judge the entries.

IX. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made. (Bob Sattazahn, Bill Hughes)

Motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 8:04

With the conclusion of the BARN business meeting, the following guest speakers gave a presentation:

B. PA Friends of Agriculture Foundation – Tonya Wible

Tonya talked about the “Where Food Comes From” reading program

Carl Brown reported that he donated \$200 to the Oley School District for this program.

A motion was made to un-adjourn the business meeting.

(Chris Hartman, Bill Hughes)

Motion carried.

A motion was made to commit \$500.00 to the Ag Literacy Program preferably targeting the Reading School District.

(Carl Brown, Bill Hughes)

Motion carried.

C. Bountiful Berks Branding

Brian Moyer, Penn State Extension - Lehigh County gave short presentation about branding.

2016 BARN Farm Tour door prizes were selected.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

(Keith Silfee, Carolyn Gunster)

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Bartsch, Secretary