



International Farm Transition Network
Annual Membership Meeting
Tuesday, June 25, 2019
12:45 pm – 2:00 pm

Call to order By Joy Kirkpatrick at 12:35

Joy designated Heather Gessner appointed to take notes

Joy announced the current board members: Kirkpatrick, Gessner Livingston, Vynalek and Welch and provided a history of IFTN. In the 90's group of people tried to get together to share info and resources regarding programs on an annual business and continued in that manner for a long while. They created the certification program, and got more individuals certified and involved, so the Board structure was brought back. IFTN is a 501(c)(3), based out of Iowa, Secretary of State and the address for the business is at the Beginning Farm Center at ISU. IFTN is an International organization with England and Ireland being involved in the past. This group worked to update the by-laws and structure, and created the rotating board member structure listed below.

Board Members Terms

- 3 – three year terms:
 - Joy Kirkpatrick, Heather Gessner, Darlene Livingston (end 2022)
- 2 – two year terms
 - Dave Baker and Allan Vynalek (end 2021)
- 2 – one year terms
 - Dan Welch and one new person – new person to be voted onto board today (end 2020)

Nominations were opened: Alan Vynalek nominated Brandon Dirkschneider, NE

Motion to nominations cease Jessica Groskopf, 2nd Bonnie Haugen. Motion carried.

Brandon provided info on himself.

Vote to elect Brandon, passed.

Treasurer Report

Joy Kirkpatrick, Kiley Fleming is currently the signer of the checkbook, and we are in transition to move that to Dan Welch as a treasurer. Balance about \$90,000 with the majority of the funds from a BFRDP grant. Costs of conference were \$13,189 which is about a \$5,114 loss to IFTN. Trainings were provided via funds at the end of the grant year. Funds in the future will be audited by a plan the board developed yesterday. More detailed reports will be available in future years. Motion to approve the treasurer report: Jessica Groskopf, NE, Jerry Linkous, NE, second. No additional discussion. Motion passed.

Proposed Bylaw Changes

The proposed changes were emailed to those who we have emails for. Move to wave any irregularity in the bylaws by Jennifer, IA and 2nd by Jessica. No additional discussion. Motion passed. Discussion on by-laws, tried to clean them up for people present and board functions. Question on dues-in the past the dues were for Extension and Organizations, then were dropped for a while. Current membership structure, if you have paid a registration fee or are a certified trainer you are a member (until 2020). Motion to Jessica, 2nd Bonnie. No discussion. Question called by Melissa O'Rourke IA. Motion carried.



Coordinator certification maintenance plan

Certification up till 2020, then 12 credits required over 3 years. Attend conference=10, documentation of 5 farms=3 credits Max, webinar training=1 or 2 credits each.

Question-For those that need credits for their other CEU accreditation, would those efforts count? The issue is the facilitator and coordinator spirit of IFTN, not necessarily the technical training of attorneys etc. Thought, could be a limited number of credits from those trainings when there is a presentation that fills that spirit. Thought, there should be a membership due of \$10-15 per year that includes a checklist of the things you have done. Thought, maximum of 3 credits if agendas are provided to prove they have attended those sessions. Question, what if a newbie can't get 5 farms-That is only one of the areas. Question-Is there a form that will record this over the years? Question-who is going to keep track of this? Suggestion-annual submission of activities. Question-is it too much for the organization to have an odd number of credits or would 1 conference in 3 years be better? Thought- 12 credits by 2023 and then 5 credits (hours) and annual reporting requirement with a \$10 or some compensation fee.

Additional thought-not annual but bi-annual or tri-. Thoughts-carry credits over for years that may be bad. Thoughts-annual fee + penalty fee if not able to in a year. Thought- go to a Pending or Inactive category for an extension. Thought-draw the hard line, no carry over hours. Thought-needs to be fair and simple. Thoughts- the big chunk of points coming from attendance at conference and conference is expensive and that may be a limiting factor for individuals to come. Make the available amount of credits via other methods equal to meeting attendance. Thoughts-2 issues here, up to 2020 and then to 2023, so what if we create a 2020 plan and the board comes up with ideas to present at the Conference next year.

Thumbs up/down votes: Keep registered until 2020:UP. 12 credits by 2023 via meeting attendance 10 pts, farm meetings 3 pts, webinars 1-2 ea.: UP. Non-IFTN training credits counting before 2023:UP, After 2023, every year for 5-7 credits every year. After 2023 every 2 years need 12 via the same previous list. Motion Alan, Gary 2nd Accept the proposal as presented with the addition of accepting outside credits, up to 3 credits. Motion carried. Motion:Alan-Jennifer Zahradnik 2nd. Board will present options for after 2023 at the next professional development conference. Carried.

Membership due structure

Annual membership dues required, and they would be included in the annual conference registration, however, if you cannot attend there would be a \$75 fee required to be an active member. Motion Jessica to approve the proposed, Gary 2nd. Discussion-clarify the time schedule by one date or date of certification. Discussion-what happens if don't pay? Is there a late fee and then you go off membership. If you attend conference every other year what are the losses of paying dues doing? Discussion-clarification that you should have to be a member of IFTN to maintain certification. Question Called Katlyn Lance 2nd Jessica. Motion: Failed.

Motion Jennifer- accept a \$75 per year membership fee, that can be built into the conf registration fee, and to maintain your listing as a certified cord you need to be a member of IFTN, to be paid by July 1 with a 60 day grace period, and a \$50 penalty after Sept 1, effective July 1, 2020. 2nd Alan. Discussion-Membership plus a 10-15 fee, no there would be the \$75 annual fee turned in with your verification form. Question-may be cost prohibitive for some Extension staff with small budgets. Questions-Structure may be cost prohibitive so additional credit options may need to be evaluated. Question called by Katlyn. Motion carried.



Goals for 2019-2020

Are there goals you would like the board to consider?

Tracking structure for certification

Web page clean up

Other business:

Location of next year's conference

- Vegas,
- Something more central or bigger airports
- Minnesota will talk - - Megan will report
- Could we doodle poll for potential ideas
- NE has Extension Admin approval if desired, but date would be moved as College World Series has hotel prices

Date not set at this time for 2020

Adjourn Alan, Jennifer Carried.