

Maine State Grange Agricultural Committee

Minutes from Feb 7, 2017

Present: Rance and Eleanor Pooler, Steve and Sue Verrill, Agnes and Bob Nelson, Sharon Morton and Karen Hatch Gagne Absent: Willie Grenier (out of state), Sandra and Carl Moon (surgery) and Bill and Shirley Hatch (winter weather)

Karen updated committee on Maine Ag Trade Show booth- there was a lot of activity and young people asking for support. We raffled off a Valentines basket to support the Grange Ag Scholarship and made \$64.00 toward the scholarship.

Karen attended the Maine Fair Association Annual meeting in Portland and met with the Exhibition Hall Superintendents. All fairs in attendance were interested and willing to have granges set up an educational exhibit at their fair provided they are informed. Need granges to contact their local fair if they would like to set up an educational exhibit. If you need the contact and are unable to go onto the web to locate the contact for the fair call Karen (5926980) and she will get the name for you. Criteria will be available soon.

Karen has given Sharon the edits for the Maine State Grange Scholarship and Farm Family Award criteria and application. They will be posted shortly.

Note: The date for the Ag luncheon for Legislators has been changed. April 5th is the new date! We will be looking for fudge for the day and pies for the luncheon. Sharon will be working on donations, Agnes and Bob will head up the lunch preparation with the Ag Committee and arranging to have a group serve lunch. We are still looking for donations of Maine made items for the AG Scholarship basket. Rance will be selling raffles at the luncheon. Eleanor and Suzanne committee to bringing 2 pies each for the luncheon. Others willing to bring pies? Please let me know.

The Ag Committee will be working on setting up an Ag luncheon at the Maine State Grange Convention in Skowhegan along with a speaker. More information to follow. Looking into two potential speakers: Grain Mill in Skowhegan and Tick Talk from Extension. Karen will contact them once the date for Annual Convention is confirmed.

Once the date is set for Maine Ag in the Classroom (Willie will let us know) we will begin to work on this dinner, donations, pies and servers.

Briefly we talked about the Ag Committee's table and raffles and silent auction at State Grange Convention. Once we have more information on dates and logistics for the state session we can better plan our set up and staffing.

Next meeting will be reading the Ag Scholarships on May 9th beginning at 10AM. This will be a potluck luncheon at the State Grange Headquarters.