

FFA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
December 16, 1980
Sacramento

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 9:23 AM by Chairman Gary Hunt. Roll was taken and the following people were present: Donald Wilson, Jerry Davis, Gary Varrella, Betty Beckendorf, Harold Johnson, Bob Flores, Patrick McCartney, Paddy Shansby, Anthony Silva, Evie Hendrix, Richard Boucher, Christine Dickson, Darrel Colburn, Jeff Rhiner, Larry West, Linda Marquez, and Steve DeJong.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as mailed. The following items were added to the agenda: (1) timing of Cal Expo, (2) State Farmer Degree, (3) FFA uniform, (4) record book scoring, and (5) general morale of teachers.

The first item for consideration was a review of the activities funded for the year 1980-81. Jerry Davis led a discussion concerning the activities appearing on the current budget which was handed to all committee members. Positive comments were made concerning the presidents' conferences. It was felt that regional or sectional conferences such as were held in the Northcoast Region might be more beneficial for members and section officers. It was suggested that advisors should be included in each conference or that special activities should be conducted for advisors while they were present for the student conferences.

The second item for consideration concerned what activities should be conducted in the 1981-82 year. It was decided that leadership activities should be conducted by region, if possible. State officers would conduct leadership conferences for each region and that some special budgeted amount should be held for special regional activities. Inservice for advisors needs to be maintained and preservice for new advisors also needs to be given high priority.

Don Wilson explained the activity presently being conducted by the Legislative Analyst. It is almost certain that they will recommend a cut in the AB 8 funds for student organizations. It may be necessary to get field support to maintain these funds.

A discussion was held concerning use of VEA Subpart 2 funds for student organizations. The Department has prioritized the use of these funds in the following manner: existing chapters in good standing will be considered first, reinstated chapters will get second consideration, and new chapters will be considered third on a first-come, first-served basis. Chapters which have not paid dues by January 15 will not be considered in good standing and may not be eligible for these supplemental funds.

Jerry Davis reported on the 1980 National Convention. Due to high cost of transportation, it will probably be increasingly harder to take large numbers to the Convention. Don Wilson reported on FFA membership. At this time, the membership was about 10,000 which is about 1,000 short of membership at this time last year. It was felt by all that any increase in dues at this time would be highly detrimental to California.

The date for the next meeting of the committee was set for May 12 in Sacramento. Changes of membership on the committee will be made after this time. A discussion was held concerning the development of a public relations booth to be used at various equipment shows and other special events. The booth will be put together in a professional manner with the initial cost coming from the Association's public relations account.

A short discussion was held concerning the Cal Expo dates. It was felt that the FFA might want to look into the possibility of changing dates with the 4H on an alternate year basis. Mr. Wilson will discuss this with participating advisors to get their feeling. If positive, he will pursue this suggestion with the 4H.

The State Farmer application and the scoring of record books was discussed. The application reflects the requirements of the degree as outlined by the National Constitution. It was moved by Harold Johnson and seconded by Betty Beckendorf that a copy of Paul Stark's scoring sheet be obtained and circulated to the committee members. It was felt that this might be the first step in standardizing the scoring method and procedure.

The FFA uniform was discussed and it was determined that the CATA could regulate the uniform at certain functions within the state. Any change within the state should be recommended by advisors.

A short discussion was held concerning the morale of agriculture teachers. It was felt that this question should be addressed by the CATA governing board. It was recommended that a workshop for teachers be held on the legislative process. This may be tried sometime during the spring.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Gary Hunt at 2:15 PM.