

MINUTES

F. F. A. NATIONAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

U. S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION WASHINGTON, D.C.

APRIL 9 - 14, 1936

(NOTE: Since the National Board of Trustees for F. F. A. were in session various times during the period indicated these notes will give a summary of the actions taken; no attempt was made to keep the actions separate by days or sessions.)

The meeting of the F. F. A. National Board of Trustees was called to order in the Office of Education, Washington, D. C., on April 9, 1936 by President William Shaffer (9:30 a.m.). Other members present were: Andy Fulton, first Vice President; Owen Owens, Second Vice President; Stanley Tschantz, third Vice President; Leon Hubbard, fourth Vice President; Julius Black, Student Secretary; J. A. Linke, Adviser and W. A. Ross, Executive Secretary. Mr. Groseclose, Treasurer, was unable to be present and sent his regrets.

The following schedule (with a list of problems for consideration) was placed in the hands of each member present:

Thursday, April 9

9:30 a.m.	Assemble for first session
12:00 noon	Lunch together
1:30 p.m.	Second session
6:00 p.m.	Supper at home of J. A. Linke

Friday, April 10

9:30 a.m.	Third session
12:00 noon	Lunch together
1:30 p.m.	Fourth session
7:30 p.m.	Fifth session

Saturday, April 11

9:30 a.m.	Sixth session
11:00 a.m.	Visit White House
2:00 p.m.	Seventh session
6:00 p.m.	Buffet supper at home of W.A. Ross

Sunday, April 12

10:00 a.m.	Leave for Christ Church, Alexandria, Va. Attend services and sit in Washington's pew.
12:30 noon	Lunch together, followed by a tour through Arlington and Mt. Vernon

Monday, April 13

9:00 a.m.

12:30 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

Eighth session

Radio broadcast

Leave for Woodstock, Virginia,

to attend Father and Son

banquet, guests of

President Shaffer.

Spend the night at Maurertown, Va.

Tuesday, April 14

9:00 a.m.

Sightseeing trip in Shenandoah
County, Virginia

Lunch at Maurertown, Virginia

Return to Washington

Wednesday, April 15

Completion of unfinished business

Leave for home on night train

The minutes of the last National F. F. A. Board of Trustees meeting were read by President Shaffer, and approved by the members.

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Travel policies as acted on by former Board of Trustees for the years 1932 and 1930 were read. Some action was considered necessary along this line as the difficulty arises when States who need the national officers's presence at their meetings are the ones who will probably not ask for their attendance.

Various methods of budgeted travel expenses were considered. Suggestion was made for the per diem basis. It was decided that maximum amounts and definite items should be included under the various expense items. The following items should be honored as expenses:

Transportation -- Member should use the shortest and most practical route.

Pullman - - - - - Member may use pullman if required; or parlor car.

Meals - - - - - Member should use discretion as to price to be paid for meals.

Lodging - - - - - Member should use standard lodging.

Tips - - - - - Member should limit his tipping to fifty cents (50¢) per day.

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Cleaning and Pressing - Member should be allowed one suit pressing per week and one suit cleaning every two weeks while he is traveling for the F.F. A. national organization.

Laundry - - - - - Member should be allowed laundry expense if the trip is over a week.

Telephone and telegram- Member should be allowed telephone and telegram expense only for official communications.

It was moved by Tschantz that all other expenses be considered as personal expenses, including; haircut, shows, shoe shine, shave, smokes and candy. Motion seconded and carried.

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The following Eighth National Convention report of "Tenth Anniversary" Committee was read:

"Your committee on the Tenth Anniversary of F.F. A. submits the following recommendations for your consideration:

1. That the F. F. A. Convention now in session should go on record favoring a special invitation to State Association officers, Directors and Supervisors of Vocational Agriculture and local Chapter presidents to attend the Tenth Anniversary of F. F. A. Convention to be held in 1937. In cases where it is impossible for local Chapter presidents to attend some other officer should represent the local chapter at the above mentioned convention.
2. That State Association officers should be instructed and urged immediately following the Eighth National Convention to prepare plans to the end that local chapters will begin to make preparations to have representation at the Tenth Anniversary Convention.
3. That the Board of Trustees should be designated as a committee to secure special railroad and bus transportation rates, special rates on hotel accommodations and special rates on convention arrangements so that the cost of the convention to its members will be reduced to a minimum.

4. That several F.F.A. bands should be in attendance at that convention and that plans should be formulated by the Board of Trustees making it possible for these bands to attend.
5. That the boys who plan to attend the Tenth Anniversary Convention invite their parents to accompany them.
6. That the President of the United States be the main speaker at the annual banquet.
7. That the national organization of F.F.A. send a special invitation to all former national officers and American Farmers.

"The Committee favors expenditure of funds from the National Treasury to carry out plans in connection with the Tenth Anniversary Convention."

After the reading of the above committee report The Board of Trustees considered the following items as working plans for the Tenth Anniversary Convention:

- ~~1111~~ a. The following persons should be invited to attend: ~~1111~~

President of the United States
Secretary of Agriculture
President or representative from each chapter
in the United States.
All past national officers.
All American Farmers.

- b. Ten State Bands for the Tenth Anniversary.

It was the gist of the meeting that we should see how the different bands develop between now and the time of Tenth Anniversary before definite plans are made as to which States should be invited for band participation. It was made clear that the National Organization will be unable to pay full quota to each band. If the States are notified now they can start working now for sending their bands to the convention.

- c. It was the sense of the meeting that high-class entertainment should be obtained for this convention.

- d. Suggestion made to have the meeting opened by first national president of F.F.A. and have him pass the gavel to the second national president, and so on.
- e. Play or pageant should be given which would show the growth of the organization. Suggestions made that Lane, Applegate, Groseclose and others who started with the national organization should be characterized in the play.
- f. Possibilities of obtaining news-reel for the convention was considered. It was the sense of the meeting that such an undertaking would probably be too expensive, although all were favorable of such an action if the cost is reasonable.
- g. Suggestion made to have floats in the parade. Near-by States and chapters (Missouri) should be encouraged to enter floats.
- h. Each State Association, including Hawaii and Puerto Rico should be encouraged to give an exhibit. It was definitely felt that no commercial exhibits were to be shown (exception: F.F.A. contractors)

If the city of Kansas City or commercial companies put up prizes for the best exhibits and floats, the Board of Trustees felt as though this would be a favorable incentive.

Discussion was then centered around the factor as to whether there should be a theme throughout the exhibits or let each State work out their own exhibits. It was the sense of the meeting that the latter would give more variety and prove more interesting.

- i. Question was raised as whether we should use strictly F. F. A. money for the Tenth Anniversary plans. It was the opinion of all that features could be accepted instead of money. (such as free rates on street cars, shows, etc.,)
- j. Hubbard brought up the question as to how long the anniversary program should last. It was the gist of the meeting that five days would be sufficient, starting Monday morning; contingent, of course, on the date when the national judging contest would be held and if necessary the Anniversary convention could start on Sunday.

- k. The members considered the proposition favorable if Kansas City could have banner and flags with the letters "F.F.A." in great evidence all over the city during this period.
- l. The possibility of having each local representative wear cap and jacket was considered favorable. The local chapters should be encouraged to include this item in their budget.
- m. An F.F.A. Service Letter should be sent out to all States giving them the general ideas as set forth above -- "F.F.A. on Parade".

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Attention was brought to the members by President Shaffer that the statement on the writing stationary used by the American Farm Youth Magazine was "untrue and misleading." Mr. Linke stated that he had brought Mr. Anderson's attention to the statement "The only national publication for F. F. A. chapters" as being misleading and untrue. Someone suggested that the States should be notified that this is not an official F.F.A. magazine. It was the gist of the conversation that it was dangerous to delegate a person outside of our organization to have control over a magazine represented as a national magazine. A magazine should be under the control of the organization, especially the editorial and governmental policies.

Mr. Homer Paul Anderson, Editor of "The American Farm Youth Magazine" was then called in to the Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Anderson stated that he came to Washington to get suggestions from the Board of Trustees concerning his magazine.

The resolution passed at the Eighth National Convention -- "The encouraging of the efforts of Homer Paul Anderson, Editor 'American Farm Youth Magazine' and suggesting further cooperation and support from the F.F.A." -- was read. Mr. Anderson informed the Board of Trustees that the articles in his magazine were for the interest of the farm youth; but since his circulation was mostly among Future Farmers of America he appealed to this class particularly.

Mr. Shaffer, president, then raised the questionable use Mr. Anderson was making of the F. F. A. emblem, that is, the placing of the emblem on the cover page of the American Farm Youth Magazine; with such a usage the American Farm Youth assumed the appearance of an official organ of the National F. F. A. organization. Shaffer also emphasized the fact that the national organization is not in a position at the present time to tie in with any concern for

the purpose of publishing an official magazine for the national organization of F.F.A.

The following other misleading usages were brought to the attention of Mr. Anderson by other members of the board: line used on the bottom of the page of the magazine; advertisement of F.F.A. chapters owls as illustrated on page 8 of February Issue; advisability of some of the advertising; heading "Chapter Supply Company". Mr. Anderson stated that it was his desire to comply with the wishes of the Board and he hadn't purposely used the terms as mentioned above to make the magazine appear as an official F.F.A. magazine but made such usages for the purpose of appealing to the Future Farmer group. He also said that the magazine has been going now for only a year, but the main reason that it has gone as far as it has is because of the F.F.A. member support, so he felt that he had to give the F. F. A. credit for all that the magazine is now.

Mr. Anderson also stated that they no longer were filling orders for the owl, and they have cut out the advertisement in the last issue; they were only filling the orders to get rid of the supply they had on hand.

Mr. Anderson's attention was brought to the fact that it was all right to use the emblem on the inside of the magazine at the head of the F.F.A. department; if he could fix up the magazine to show no discrimination to any one farm group he would have a greater field in which to develop.

Mr. Anderson stated that his future policy would be "to keep this going, assuring you fellows, that we will cooperate more with you on matters of policy, and I think we are going to branch out as much as possible." He also informed themembers that next fall they are planning for the October issue to be the Special Convention Number. It will be sent to States before the convention (5th of October) and he plans to take some copies of the issue to the next convention. (a regular October issue with emphasis on the convention) Mr. Anderson also stated that if they continue the magazine they plan to have their editorial offices in Washington.

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Mrs. Smith of the Resettlement Unit of W. P. A. had a talk with the members of the Board of Trustees, wherein she explained that she wanted:

1. Material for the rural issue in the "Voice of Youth"
2. Material to use in their presentation of agricultural problems for their Monograph.... which is an assembly of expressions from the youth leaders on today's problems.

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Mrs. Smith explained that such expressions were to be the youth's own point of view and not the expression of the organization.

The members suggested to her that the best channel for her to obtain this material would be in the local, State and regional public speaking manuscripts.

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It was moved, seconded and carried that a word of greeting should be sent to the Hawaiian convention from the Board of Trustees.

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It was moved, seconded and carried that representatives from the national organization should be sent to Grange meeting and Farm Bureau meeting.

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The possibility of sending two State bands to the Ninth National Convention was considered. It was the sense of the meeting that Michigan shouldn't be allowed the full \$800.00 quota. It was suggested that \$600.00 should be the maximum amount allocated to Michigan and \$200.00 for Missouri.

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Motion was made, seconded and carried that the F. F. A. decline the offer made by the World Poultry Congress to become an affiliated member of the World's Poultry Science Association.

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The following action, which was taken at the last national convention, was read:

"National organization of F. F. A. should not accept the sponsorship of any one club or organization but that local chapters and State Associations should be left free to cooperate with and accept assistance from various service organizations."

The following letter from Mr. A. W. Nolan, National Regional Vice President of the National Exchange Club (2/7/36) was read:

Mr. W. A. Ross
Specialist in Agricultural Education
Department of Interior
Office of Education
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ross:

I have your letter of the 4th. I am glad you are interested in the little leaflet I have prepared as a message to Future Farmers. I am sending you a copy of this material and I must request that you return it when you have read it or used it in any way you see fit.

Assuring you of the National Exchange Club's interest in F.F.A., as well as my own personal interest, I am

Yours sincerely,

A. W. NOLAN
National Regional Vice President

After the leaflet, mentioned above, was read the question was raised by several members as to whom the National Exchange Club represented and why should the F.F.A. publish such a letter for the National Exchange Club. A motion was made, seconded and carried that the FFA organization decline the offer made by the National Exchange Club. Another motion was made to encourage the National Exchange Club as soon as funds are available for them to distribute the letter from their headquarters. Motion was seconded and carried.

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It was pointed out that in the past no distinction has been made between the regional and national public speaking contests; before now the regional public speaking contests were considered as semi-finals, but the national organization has had no jurisdiction over the State contests. The question was then raised as to whether Massachusetts was eligible to enter the regional contest of public speaking. Mr. Linke read the replies from three of the men on the F.F.A. Advisory Council and they all inferred that Massachusetts should be allowed to enter the regional contest but it should be understood by Massachusetts that if they win the regional contest they cannot represent the region for the National Public Speaking

Contest. It was the sense of the meeting that under the strict interpretation of the rules we can not keep Massachusetts out of the regional contest, eventhough the National Organization does give medals for the regional contest.

Motion made, seconded and carried that if Massachusetts is allowed to pass in the regional public speaking contest and if they win such contest they cannot enter the National Contest; no medal will be given by the national organization.

The question was raised as to "which evidence" would be considered evidence if the Massachusetts did comply with the National Constitution. Discussion followed.

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Question was raised as to whether the Board of Trustees considered it feasible to rotate the convention from place to place each year. It was the sense of the meeting that by now the people are getting more and more the idea of having the convention centralized in the middle of the States. Difficulties of moving all material from the convention each year were brought to attention. The expense by several was thought to be too great. The Board of Trustees expressed the feeling that it would be a nice trip to go to California but not practical; a motion was made, seconded and carried that Secretary Black write a letter to James Eager, President of the California Association, and thank him for the invitation but the National Board of Trustees would have to decline the invitation to have the next national convention in California.

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Motion was made, seconded and carried that if stenotype reporter is considered necessary for the Ninth National Convention that the Executive Secretary be allowed to get such services.

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With the increased volume of work each year at the convention in Kansas City, the Board of Trustees made a motion, seconded and carried that Mrs. Vivian Amidon be allowed to go to Kansas City to help with the F. F. A. work during the Ninth Convention

The following men were considered for possibilities to receive the F.F.A. Honorary American Farmer Degree:

Theodore Kuper
*George Catts
Clarence Poe
*F. W. Lathrop
*J. W. Studebaker
H. M. Railsback
*W. I. Myers
*M. W. Welch
*W. E. Drips
E. H. Everson
A. N. Patterson
Henry Wallace
P. W. Litchfield

(*Most favorable possibilities at this time, by the Board of Trustees)

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The following men were suggested as Star American Farmer judges:

Dr. Henry C. Taylor, (Farm Foundation)
Alfred P. Sloan (General Motors)
William H. Johns
General Robert H. Wood
Mr. Cabell, (Armour Company)

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Motion was made, seconded and carried to have the emblem picture in the F.F.A. national office, glassed, cleaned and reframed.

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The Emblem Committee Report of the Eighth National Convention was read. Since the defacing of the emblem is carried on by outside companies who have no contracts with the organization as official companies, the problem appeared to be: "How can the F.F.A. control the use of the emblem". The F.F.A. Board of Trustees wished to go on record: "against the use of the F.F.A. emblem on canned or sealed goods." It was suggested that Piedmont Label Company be especially discouraged along this line. The Georgia Association should also mention on the outside wrapper whether the goods is U. S. Grade, size and weight; the Georgia Association can label or wrapper as it now

stands was considered as misleading.

Motion was made, seconded and carried to attempt by moral suasion to discourage commercial use of emblem for advertising purposes. It was the gist of the meeting that the people who are doing a good job of advertising should not be penalized but discouragement should be given to those who are doing a poor job. Mention was also made that the Piedmont Label Company should not let the wrappers go to any other State except Georgia.

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Motion was made, seconded and carried that the matter of continuing the Parliamentary Procedure Contests at the national conventions should be tabled until next fall.

Motion was made, seconded and carried that the four State Supervisors of Agricultural Education who are members of the FFA Advisory Council should assist and prepare score cards for State Association Awards.

Motion was made, seconded and carried that the national organization of Future Farmers of America offer \$100.00 to be used to the discretion of the National Committee in Judging Contest, Mr. Linke, Chairman for the Judging award.

Motion was made, seconded and carried that the same practice for the ear of corn judging in the last convention should be the procedure for the Ninth National Convention. Motion was made, seconded and carried that the national organization of FFA should donate the following prizes for this corn contest:

1st . . .	\$5.00
2nd . . .	3.00
3rd . . .	1.00

Motion was made, seconded and carried that late entries in the chapter contest should be allowed to enter the contest (national) providing that they be marked as late.

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Question was raised whether a key should be given to the local honorary chapter members. Since this matter was settled at the last convention, it was no longer discussed.

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Motion was made, seconded and carried that the State Association should be sent letters to encourage them with their band and musical talents. It was considered feasible to do this so that better choice could be made for the next convention band.

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Motion was made, seconded and carried that a letter of appreciation should be sent to the Grange for their donation of prizes for the contest.

Motion was made, seconded and carried that a letter of appreciation should be sent to Mr. Cochel for his donation of additional prizes in the Star Farmer Award.

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A suggestion was made that a letter should be sent to the Oklahoma Association of F.F.A. concerning the constitutional matter of the State officers holding the Third Degree.

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The name 'Jones' on page 16 of the Eighth National Convention Proceedings should be changed to 'Peek'. A motion was made, seconded and carried for this change.

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Motion made, seconded and carried that the contract for the song books should be given to the French Bray Company provided they will do it reasonably. A letter should be written to Hall and McCreary Company to that effect.

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Motion made, seconded and carried that the F. F. A. Creed should remain as it is now. Shortening, leaving out words, phrases or sentences would fail to give the breadth of thought expressed in the body of the Creed.

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Motion was made, seconded and carried that the Arkansas Association should not deface the emblem as they suggested with the "Drive Slowly" slogan and a letter should be written to that effect. The Board of Trustees expressed the opinion that any one modification of the emblem would lead to future modifications which would eventually cause the organization to lose its identity as the F. F. A.

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It was suggested that the French-Bray Company should be encouraged to work up a cardboard exhibit card which would be appropriate to use by the various chapters at their exhibits, fairs and other events.

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Motion was made, seconded and carried that the offer made by the Purina Mills to sponsor trips to camp should be rejected.

Motion was made, seconded and carried that Stanley Tschantz, third National Vice President for F.F.A. should be sent to the camp as official representative, providing the F.F.A. can get a scholarship for him. Stanley agreed to pay his own transportation to the camp if such a provision could be made.

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Since the Iowa candidate for the American Farmer Degree as suggested by Mr. H. T. Hall has been out of school for over three years, the Board of Trustees decided to reject this entry. Julius Black was asked to investigate this particular entry when he returned to Iowa.

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Mr. Ross was asked to investigate and act on accident insurance for the F.F.A. employee, Mrs. Vivian Amidon; officers were to buy insurance by the day.

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Motion made, seconded and carried that a letter should be sent by the Vice Presidents to all the State Presidents discouraging "horse pranks" in their initiation ceremonies. It was the gist of the meeting that the regular ceremonies are enough to impress the incoming members of F. F. A. with the objectives and goals of the organization.

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It was suggested that bank books should be compiled and put out. French- Bray Printing Company, Baltimore, Maryland should be given the first chance. It was the sense of the meeting that they should be made available at as small a price as possible; the national organization should not give them to the chapters.

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Plans were discussed for the Sunday Convention Program for the Ninth National Convention. Possibility of having the band concert, State Advisers meeting, Advisory Council meeting and Board of Trustees meeting, were discussed for the Sunday meeting. The following were made as suggestions by the Board of Trustees: The Board of Trustees meeting held from October 14-17 so that the officers would be able to mingle in with delegates during the convention; registration days should be held on October 17th-18th and opening of Convention on October 19th.

Mr. Studebaker, L. J. Taber and Strickland Gillilan were suggested as speakers for the FFA Ninth National Convention.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the F.F.A. organization should try to get Strickland Gillilan, humorist, to attend the Ninth National Convention; the national organization would set aside \$100, or even more for at least two performances if necessary to have Mr. Gillilan at the convention. It was the gist of the meeting that a humorist for the main speaker at the convention would help to 'liven-things-up'.

Futher convention plans were discussed and Mr. Ross's suggestions were approved.

The following changes were suggested by the National Board of Trustees for the National F.F.A. Constitution:

Article II Section C (change "State" to "State, Territorial or Insular")

"Delegates from local chapters should meet in State, Territorial or Insular convention, organize, adopt a State, Territorial or Insular constitution not in conflict with the national constitution, elect officers, set up a program of work, and then apply to the National Executive Secretary for membership in the national organization. Upon receipt of a charter from the national organization the Association, its chapters, and the members thereof, will be recognized as members of the Future Farmers of America."

Article III, Section A (add "Alumni" and "Collegiate")

"Membership in this organization shall be of five kinds:

1. active.
2. alumni
3. collegiate
4. associate
5. honorary

Article III, Section C (addition of Alumni members)

"Alumni membership. An active member automatically becomes an alumnus upon relinquishing his active membership privileges."

Article III, Section D

"Associate Membership.

Article III, Section E

"Honorary Membership.

Article III, Section F. (addition of Collegiate members)

"Collegiate membership. Any male student who is enrolled in a Federally aided vocational agricultural teacher training department may be elected a collegiate member by a majority vote of the members present at any regular collegiate chapter meeting."

Article IV, Section B Green Hand Degree. (Sections 1 and 2 changed)

Qualifications for election:

1. Be actively enrolled in all-day, day-unit or part time vocational agriculture classes.
2. Possess facilities for conducting and have a program of supervised farming satisfactory to the local adviser.

Article IV, Section C (Section 1 changed)

1. Completion of at least one year of systematic instruction in vocational agriculture and membership in FFA with a program of supervised farming in operation, satisfactory to the local adviser.

Article IV, Section D (Add the underscored words)

3. Earn, by his own efforts from agricultural enterprises, and deposit in a bank, or productively invest at least \$200.....
6. Must have been a member of the school judging team, debating team or some other team representing the school.
8. Possess qualities of leadership as shown by having held responsible positions in connection with student chapter activities or community activities.

Article IV, Section E (Underscored is interpretation to be given to these sections)

1. Active membership for at least three years in the FFA.
3. Possess demonstrated ability to farm by having conducted an outstanding program of supervised farming throughout the period of vocational training and active membership in the FFA. (Program must have continuation and growth in scope. Major enterprises carried through and amplified each year with major, minor and contributory enterprises where appropriate in a good farming program found in the locality. Show a reasonable labor income. Also show "growing into farming at the end".)
4. Be engaged in a farming occupation or have definite plans for becoming a farmer. (Write down as definitely as possible what he intends to do in the agricultural field) (Adopt convention resolution)

5. Earn by his own efforts from agricultural enterprises and deposit in a bank, or otherwise productively invest at least \$500. (\$500 total project income in four years -- \$500 invested in farming. Income from farm projects and other farm practices.)
6. Possess demonstrated ability to work with others by having participated in some agricultural cooperative enterprise or movement (Co-op buying and selling as conducted by a chapter. Participation in an organized adult co-op undertaking.)

Article IV, Section F. (Add "Alumni" and "Collegiate")

"Associate, alumni, collegiate and honorary members shall not vote nor shall they."