

ST. CLAIR COUNTY 4-H LEADERS' COUNCIL
Monday, September 20, 2010
Goodells County Park

Present: Jessie Aguinaga, Steve Aguinaga, Dale Avery, Jackie Avery, Jenny Fox, Raemi Kunath, Rebecca Kunath, Al Leone, Cindy Leone, Kim Newberry, Linda Pakulski, Chris Ruemenapp, Jeff Schelske, Ashley Sebastian, LaDonna Shier, Donna Sill, Betty Stephens, Rob Usakowski, JoLee VanTroostenberghe, Jodi Veldman, Lori Warchuck, Tim Warchuck and Tom Whitenight

Excused: Peggy Gregg, Connie Murray, Jenn Putney and Linda Theume

Absent: Denise Czostkowski

Also Present: Mike Whitenight

- I. Call to Order – Raemi Kunath called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda – Linda Pakulski moved the agenda be accepted, Al Leone seconded, motion carried.
- III. Secretary's Report/Correspondence – The minutes were distributed from the July 19, 2010 meeting. Tim Warchuck moved the minutes be approved, Steve Aguinaga seconded, motion carried.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Cindy Leone distributed the Treasurer's Report. The balance of the Council checking account as of 7/19/2010 was \$6,848.96. Income was 2,459.58 from interest and a deposit for the Krunkenburg Scholarship Fund and parade. Expenses were \$472.42 for float/tarp & parade entry, auction expense and candy for the Fair, trophy for Prince & Duke, reference materials for the Extension Library, rabbit scale and two rabbit trophies. Ending balance for the checking account is \$8,836.12. The beginning balance of the Council Savings Account on 5/17/2010 was \$20,119.46. Interest was \$13.11 and there were no expenses. Total balance as of 9/13/2010 was \$20,132.57.
- V. Guest/Public Addressing: Mike Whitenight attended the meeting because he is interested in running for a Council seat.
- VI. Staff Report – Lori Warchuck purchased some books for the library and passed them around to the Council members to view.

Lori also announced there are many changes and possibly more changes to come at the Extension Office regarding personnel. Shaun Groden St. Clair County Administrator/Controller has introduced his Administrative Budget. He is seeking alternative funding to cover salaries for Lori Warchuck and Liane Allen. If they do not come to an agreement they could be gone as soon as November. Currently they want to have these positions fall under the Parks & Recreation budget. Lori is a Full Time 4-H Program Assistant. Liane Allen is a Part Time Program Assistant for Environmental Programs. Lori suggested that we should email and/or call your County Commissioners and tell them how important it is to keep our 4-H Program in tact. Lori will email the list of County Commissioners to Donna and she will forward them to the

Council Members. Lori will also let us know when the next County Commissioner meeting will be held and the location in case we want to attend their meeting to voice our opinions.

The newsletter has been put on the web and mailed. Lori distributed a mailing list of VIP's, Resource Leaders and 4-H Alumni. This list was checked prior to this meeting and some names were removed and others added. These people will receive occasional newsletters in the mail.

Re-enrollment is in October. The Administrative Leaders are required to attend one of the many meetings scheduled. The Extension office is using a new Access enrollment system and will be great once it is up & running. It has the potential for leaders to pull their own club, enter or change email information or addresses. The National 4-H is currently using this system.

VII. Fair Board Report – Chris Ruemenapp reported on the last Fair Board meeting. The Fair Board is going to be looking at requirements for Showmanship Sweepstakes. There will be new equipment for the Dog project. When making billboards next year, no licensed characters will be allowed – there was a problem with that this year. They purchased 64 new cages. They have discussed tearing down the Quonset Hut; the water pressure in the Dairy tent will be evaluated. There will be a Superintendent's meeting soon regarding the use of the website. The list of Fair Board nominees will be available soon.

VIII. Committee Reports

- A. Auction: Raemi asked Dale, Chris and Kim if they would get the prizes for the raffle for next year's auction and they agreed. Chris asked if she could substitute a "treasure chest" instead of the money tree. The Council agreed to the "treasure chest". The Fair Board has a scale they would like to sell at the Auction. Tim Warchuck moved we allow the Fair Board to sell the scale at the Auction next year, Al Leone seconded, motion carried.
- B. Awards: The Awards Committee met prior to this meeting and has chosen the winners for the Friend of 4-H Award to be presented at the Leader's Banquet on Friday, November 5th. Lori distributed the updated form for the County Medal Award and pointed out the changes from the old form.
- C. Fair Fun Night: They had a good turn out this year. There weren't the busses that came last year, so they didn't need as much candy. Jackie found a place to order candy on-line that was less expensive and she also got some candy from Sam's Club. They also got a donation from M&M's. Everyone got candy – even the late comers. There were some young children that came up during the time the older children were scrambling for candy and the younger ones were given a bag of candy instead of getting in with the older ones.
- D. Spring Achievement: Kim Newberry stated that the date for Spring Achievement needed to be determined. The school has April 16th and 30th open. The Council determined the 30th would be the better date and make the 16th as a second choice if the 30th is not available. It was also suggested that we check with Landmark school. It was recently remodeled and may be a good place to hold Spring Achievement. Lori and Kim will do a walk thru to check it out.
- E. Court: Kim stated that the Court did a walk for the Roof Sit yesterday and they all wore their Fair Court tee shirts. Kim stated the Council made a donation last year and asked if

we could make a donation again this year. Last year we donated \$100. Jackie Avery moved we donate \$100 this year, Jeff Schelske seconded, motion carried. There will be a parade on October 9th for the 150th Anniversary in Kimball Township. Kim stated she would like to put indoor/outdoor carpeting on the floor of the float. Al Leone stated he had some that he would be happy to donate to use on the float. They need a place to work on the float. If Kim can't find a place to use, Al stated they can use his shop if necessary. The Yale Parade will be December 4th.

- F. Leaders' Banquet: The Leader's Banquet is scheduled for Friday, November 5th at 6:30 and dinner at 7:00. Ashley asked for pictures to be put on a CD and take the CD to the Fair Office. Chris will take care of the Reverse Drawing. It was suggested that we use a large sign to display the numbers that have been called. Al Leone stated he has the capability to enlarge a paper to two feet wide by whatever length necessary. We would like to use a couple of the Court people to help introduce the Leaders and also to mark off the numbers as they are called for the Reverse Drawing. We will check other possible places for about 175 people and a cash bar for future banquets. We will discuss weather to book Fore Lakes for all future banquets at the November meeting.
- G. Participation Fee: The Committee met before the last meeting and determined to set a cap of \$250 per mini-grant. Lori stated that currently there is \$9,430.00 in 4-H fees at MSU and half of that will be sent to the campus and half will be sent to the Council. Lori and Liane have been writing a grant for the MSU half to come back to the county. They are trying to work on a Youth Farm Stand so the kids can sell their farm produce and crafts.
- H. Budget – no report.
- I. Nominating Committee: LaDonna stated she will schedule a meeting in mid October. There are two new candidates that want to run for the Council. It was determined that since the guidelines were never published in the Newsletter and Lori did not tell Crystal that she needed to come to at least one meeting, that we can not use the guidelines this year. Lori will publish the guidelines and application form and distribute them at the Banquet. Dale Avery, Jackie Avery, Denise Czostkowski, JoLee VanTroostenberghe, Linda Pakulski, LaDonna Shier, Donna Sill, Tim Warchuck and Tom Whitenight and the two new candidates need to write a short biographical paragraph and send it to Lori so she can make up a ballot for the Banquet. There will be a vote at the Banquet for the seven open Council positions, all forms will be given to Lori and she will invite the winners to the November meeting.

VIII. Old Business.

- A. Carl Kruckenberg Memorial Shooting Sports Award: The award was given on sportsmanship, involvement and positive attitude. The winner was Katie Bickley from Rimrock Acres. Lori stated it was a "happy/sad" moment for everyone including Katie because she personally knew Carl Kruckenberg.
- B. Farm Tour Concession stand refund. The Farm Tour Committee decided to reimburse the Council \$350 for the concession stand from last year. They were hoping we would decide to do it again this year. It was decided that even though we will receive the reimbursement we are not interested in doing the concession stand this year.

IX. New Business

- A. Scholarship Requests: Lori provided the following Scholarship Request. There was one scholarship request from Dannie Fountain to attend the North Central Region Volunteer Forum which informs 4-H members about the upcoming events in 4-H, offers opportunities to get more involved and offers educational activities that will allow 4-Hers to grow in their project areas. The amount requested is \$75. Linda Pakulski moved we give Dannie Fountain \$75, JoLee VanTroostenberghe seconded, motion carried. Cindy Leone will send Dannie the check after the event.
- B. Storage Boxes: Raemi and Cindy stated they need to purchase plastic storage boxes with wheels for Council supplies at the Extension Office. The current boxes are cardboard and are falling apart. They are hoping to get boxes that will stack on top of each other and can be easy to handle. Raemi and Cindy will shop for them and estimated they would spend less than \$100. It was suggested they try shopping at Walmart for them. Jessie Aguinaga moved that Raemi and/or Cindy purchase the boxes for Extension Office storage, LaDonna seconded, motion carried.
- C. Project Linus Blanket Day: The Project Linus Blanket Day has been scheduled for Friday, November 26th from 1:00 -7:00 pm in the Community Building at Goodells Park. Jackie Avery moved we use participation money for a mini grant to pay for the building, scissors and fleece, Jessie Aguinaga seconded, motion carried. It will be \$100 for the building and \$150 for supplies.
- D. Rollerblade Hockey Equipment: Tim Warchuck stated the field boarder wedges that made up the field for the Rollerblade Hockey games are currently in Gilda's Father's barn and they need to be moved. Tim asked if the Fair Board would allow us to put them in the Fair Barn temporarily. We will sell them at the auction next year. We want to make sure that they goes on the Auction Flier because that may draw some buyers to the Auction. It is estimated that there are two "pick up" loads. Tim will need to let us know if he needs help moving these items and we will help him in any way we can.
- E. VIP List: We went through the list prior to the meeting and added people and deleted a few people. Please contact Lori to let her know of any alumni that should be deleted.

- XI. Announcements/Adjournment – Jeff Schelske moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:50 pm, Jenn Fox seconded, motion carried.

The next meeting will be on the 4th Monday, November 22, 2010 at 6:30 pm at the MSU Extension Auditorium for the annual Pot Luck meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Raemilee Kunath
Acting Council President

Donna Sill
Secretary