Lake County 4-H Club Committee, Inc.

March 27, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 by Amy Hein. Nathan Jamroze lead the pledges.

Roll Call: Present were: Connie Brittingham**,** Lin Wozniewski, Christy Long,Linda Dillon, Nicole Kasperian,Lynette DuBord**,** Amy Hein, Lisa Bubala**,** Kristine Donaldson,Colleen Donaldson, Claire Donaldson, Justin Gatlin**,** Marsha Essary, Ike Essary**,** Jackie Gerner**,** Janet Kraynik**,** Judy Dawson, Sharon Harris, Maggie Server, Matt Hayden, Amber Johnson, Nathan Jamroz, Michelle Humbert, Rachael Bult, Debbie Nieman, and Jennifer Haynes**.**

The secretary’s report for November has been on-line. Nicole Kasperian moved to accept the secretaries report. Connie Brittingham seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report So far this year deposits have been $13580 and withdrawals have been $5794.08, leaving a balance in the bank of $42,449.91. Connie Brittingham moved to accept the treasurers report. Linda Dillon second. Motion carried. There was no endowment report.

Correspondence: Lorrie Nelson sent a Thank you note for the wonderful January Volunteer banquet. There were two Friends of 4-H donations to be made to the 4-H Foundation in memory Mark Childress and James Tiebel.

Special Discussion: Meeting attendance. Amy pointed out that 1 board member only made 3 of the 9 Board meetings last year and 3 people only made 4 of them. The By-Laws state that any Board member who misses 3 meetings in one year may be removed.

**Sub Committee Reports**:

Auction: Nicole Kasparian, Janet Kraynik: Nicole Kasparian indicated the committee had not met since November and that there would be a meeting immediately following County Committee

Horse and Pony. Christi Long, Megan Bush, Kristina Shupryt: Christi reported that the horse and pony demonstrations were done and that the committee would be working on the fair schedule at their next metting

Junior Leaders: Elaine Berrones and Nathan Jamroz. Nathan Jamroz reported that the Junior Leaders had volunteered at Phill’s Friends, coloring cards, packing boxes, and making blankets. The Junior Leaders had been selling geraniums and were planning on helping distribute the geraniums.

By-Laws: Rachel Bolt, Rachel Kohler, Patti Nichols. Amy Hein reported that nothing was happening with the By-Laws committee at this time.

Finance: Julie Ziese, Amy Hein, Jennifer Bisig, Jackie Gerner, Jackie Garner reported that the club audits had all been completed. A committee consisting of Linda Dillon, Judy Dawson, and Lin Wozniewski was charged with auditing the County Committee books.

Nominations: Julie Ziese, Amy Hein, Nicole Kasperian. Amy Hein indicated there was nothing to report.

**Standing Committee Reports**

Achievement Night: Amy Hein , Janet Kraynik, Debbie Nieman. Amy Hein indicated that the date for the Achievement Night in the handbook was not going to work and suggested several other dates, including Wednesday July 30 and Sunday July 27th. Amy Hein indicated that sound would be available in either the Showcase Tent or the Show Pavilion on either date. After a bit of discussion Nicole Kasparian moved that the Achievement Night be moved to Sunday July 27th at 5:00 PM. In the showcase tent next to the 4H building. Linda Dillon seconded. Motion carried.

Awards: Lisa Bubala, Linda Dilon, Rebekah Lamb, Judy Dawson, and Connie Brittingham. Lisa Bubala reported that cover letters and resumes for all the awards are due May 1. To be eligible for an award, the 4-H member must submit a cover letter and resume for each award they are applying for and must have turned in a ROA last fall.

Ambassadors: Lin Wozniewski, Lynette DuBord, Michelle Humbert. Lin Wozniewski that about half of the Ambassadors had completed their Ambassador projects. There were two projects that had applied for YES grants and we would find out on April 1st if they were funded. The Ambassadors were also going to be helping at the 4-H State conference on Sunday May 18th in Gary.

Banquet/Annual Meeting. Linda Dillon, Judy Dawson, Christi Long, Lynette Dubord Linda Dillon reported a theme was being debated for next year and that the banquet was likely to be similar to the last two years

Geranium/Fundraising: Lin Wozniewski, Lisa Bubala. Lin Wozniewski indicate that geranium orders were due the next day. Sign up sheets were being sent out for County Committee members to sign up to help distribute geraniums and for the clubs to sign up for distribution times. There were also sign-up sheets being sent out to the Junior Leaders to sign-up to help.

Memory Books: Connie Brittingham, Patti Nichols, Rachel Bult. Connie Brittingham indicated there were not many books turned in, but those that were turned in were very high quality

Trophies: Linda Dillon, Lisa Bubala, Rachel Koehler, Judy Dawson. Linda Dillion indicated there was nothing to report.

Promotion: Lynette DuBord, Lisa Bubala, Christi Long. Lynette DuBord announced there would be a “Come Hang Out Party at the Fairgrounds for all the clubs to come hang out together. The date is September 21st. 4-H Members are encouraged to bring their bicycles and games. October 5th will be the annual 4-H kickoff at the 4-H office. The theme will be 4-H One Size Fits All. Project superintendents will be encouraged to take a table and have something to do with their project to encourage 4-H members to try their projects.

Welcoming: Linda Dillon, Lin Wozniewski Amy Hein thanked Linda and Lin for the food provided for the County Committee.

Stock the Trailer: Jackie Gerner, Nicole Kasperian, Julie Ziese. Amy Hein led the discussion. She indicated that more coordination on unloading the trailer would be needed this year if we continue participating. The rules are changing for this year. Instead of having the whole state compete against each other, the state is being split up into 3 regions, with the same 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes in each region. The county that has taken 1st place the last 2 years would not be in our region, but LaPorte County who took 3rd place to our 2nd place last year would be in our same region. And they are reportedly going to try hard to overtake us. Linda Dillon indicated how grateful she is to have the money won last year to upgrade the shelves in the 4-H building. With JoAnn’s going out of business, she is getting much newer, less bent up shelving units for the 4-H Fair building this year. Amy indicated that although it was not very far from the fairgrounds to the farm, the food that had been put into the truck in shopping bags spilled all over everywhere. And trying to get the food banks to cooperate and get help to unload the trailer was a problem. After much discussion, Jackie Gerner made a motion to participate again this year. Linda Dillon seconded. Motion passed. Jackie was going to contact Farm Credit and let them know Lake County is participating. Jackie will get a more coordinated unloading of the truck, letting the food banks know when and where they can get the food and if they are not at the appointed place at the appointed time, they do not get any food. With the current political climate, it seems unlikely that they will not jump at the chance as long as they know well enough in advance when and where they need to be.

Old Business:

State/Project changes. – none – just animal and Jennifer is taking care of that.

Urban Ag: There are about 16 members of the new Urban Ag program. The group visited their first urban farm.

New Business:

Lynette’s Kickoff Party: Coverend under Promotion

Sponsors: Forms were sent out by Kasey Please get sponsors for the various projects.

Internal Audit: Covered under Finance. The County Committee audit will include Auction with Julie Ziese and Horse and Pony with Elaine Hein.

Educator Comments:

Jennifer stated that she and several Lake County volunteers attended affiliated training. Memorandums of Understanding will need to be filled out by the Board members.

There will be a new model for the CDE events. The Forestry and Insect ID’s will be moving to a regional structure instead of the area structure. More information on this will be released later.

If you have not already done so, the 4H office requests that you notify the office of your social media interactions when it comes to the clubs and projects.

Anyone wishing to be a judge for any projects should fill out the forms on 4-H Online. You will need to indicate which type of projects you would like to judge and how far you are willing to travel.

Kasey will be meeting with the By Laws committee soon to craft adjustments to the By-Laws.

The new Discovery program is serving 168 students at the Banneker Elementary School with projects and public speaking.

Additional Business: How to replace two cabinets damaged last year during the packing of the 4-H building last year was discussed. Ike and Linda will be looking into getting replacement cabinets from JoAnn’s.

Judy Dawson moved to adjourn the meeting. Connie Brittingham seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00

Respectfully submitted,

Lin Wozniewski