

April 18, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 by Amy Hein who lead the pledges.

Roll Call: Present were: Connie Brittingham, Julie Ziese, Lin Wozniowski, Linda Dillon, Nicole Kasperian, Lynette DuBord, Amy Hein, Lisa Bubala, Justin Gatlin, Jackie Gerner, Megan Bush, Garrett Neal, Stephanie Neal, Judy Dawson, Amanda Woodworth, Barbara Hinton, Patti Nichols, Kris Reed, Tom Reed, Laura Clemons, Rachael Bult, and Julie Jones.

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

Treasurer's Report In March there were deposits of \$34204.8 and withdrawals of \$311.83, leaving a balance in the bank of \$63,811.38. Connie Brittingham moved to accept the treasurers report. Linda Dillon second. Motion carried.

Correspondence: While there was no actual correspondence, the Lowell Tribune devoted almost a whole page to the Eagle Creek Up & Atem Callout. .

Special Discussion: Purdue Day of Giving. Amy Hein reminded everyone of the upcoming Purdue Day of Giving on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Last year Purdue took in over \$110 million. This year donors can specify where their donation goes. People giving can specify the Lake County 4-H, in which case the money will go to the STEM center at the Fair, or the Lake County Purdue Extension, in which case it will go toward's a greenhouse next to the Extension Center.

#### **Sub Committee Reports:**

Auction: Nicole Kaskperian, Janet Kraynik: Nicole Kasperian indicated the committee there was no meeting on April 18, but that the committee had identified the vender for the hospitality tent.

Horse and Pony. Christi Long, Megan Bush, Kristina Shupryt: Megan Bush indicated that the committee was focusing on the Horse and Pony Practice Day on Sunday May 5<sup>th</sup> at the Navajo Saddle Club in Kouts..

Junior Leaders: Caroline Donaldson, Garrett Neal. Garrett Neal reported that the Junior Leaders had worked at Phil's Friends the previous month doing all kinds of service work They were going to be helping to distribute Geraniums to the clubs and were meeting at the Government Center on 4/24 for a call-out meeting to learn about County government from Commissioner Tippy..

By-Laws: Rachel Bolt, Rachel Kohler, Patti Nichols. Rachel Bolt reported nothing to report.

Finance: Julie Ziese, Amy Hein, Jennifer Bisig, Jackie Gerner, Lin Wozniowski. Jackie Gerner reported that County Committee would need to purchase an updated license for Quick Books within the next couple of months as our current license is expiring.

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

#### **Standing Committee Reports**

Achievement Night: Amy Hein , Janet Kraynik, Debbie Nieman. Amy Hein reported that we would have the Showcase Tent for the Sneak Preview night again this year and the sound system has been procured.

Awards: Lisa Bubala, Linda Dilon, Rebekah Lamb, Judy Dawson, and Connie Brittingham. Lisa Bubala that a new Record of Achievement (ROA) was almost ready for release. There will be 2 versions. The most radically changed version will allow 4-H members to Click, Drag, Copy, and Paste the output from the Lake County Fair Entry Results and the output from the State Fair Results directly into the ROA and the ROA would calculate all of the points immediately. The traditional version will allow the 4-H member to type or write the results from their projects directly into the same basic report as before. Both versions have expanded room for Workshops, Leadership, Citizenship, and Promotion. The club meetings and other routine functions have been simplified to make it easier to fill out and calculate. The spacing has been changed slightly. These will be ready for download by next month.

Ambassadors: Lin Wozniowski, Lynette DuBord, Michelle Humbert. Lin Wozniowski reported that all but 4 of the Ambassadors have now completed their Ambassador projects. Two of our Ambassadors have received the first YES Grant from the 4-H foundation ever received in Lake County. They applied for funds to build raised beds for a Senior Citizen Center in Lake County for the supplies.

Banquet/Annual Meeting. Linda Dillon, Judy Dawson, Christi Long, Lynette Dubord Linda Dillon that the Banquet would again be at the 4-H Building in January. She hoped that we would see another increase in attendance this next year like we saw last year.

Geranium/Fundraising: Lin Wozniowski, Lisa Bubala. Lin Wozniowski indicated that we were within the contract amounts for the geraniums due to the last-ditch effort of Amy Hein. Because of the additional amount voted to be given to the clubs, there may be a shortfall in the budget of ~\$1500. The County Committee decided to adapt a wait and see stance to determine if another fundraiser is needed to make up the shortfall. Julie Jones noted this was the easiest Geranium Sale we have had in the last several years. Only 34 flats of salmon needed to be sold. Geranium pick-up will be on Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> at Henning's Farm in DeMotte.

Memory Books: Connie Brittingham, Patti Nichols, Rachel Bult. Connie Brittingham indicated there was nothing to report.

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

Promotion: Lynette DuBord, Lisa Bubala, Christi Long. Lynette DuBord introduced the two leaders of Lake County's newest Club Leaders, Barbara Hinton from the Hammond Explorers, and Laura Clemons of the Hobart Hurricanes. Both clubs are off to a good start. Lynette asked that any leaders having a little free time to volunteer to please contact these leaders to find out when they could use an extra hand until the clubs are a little more established. The Hammond Explorers already have 9 or 7 families who have registered with 4-H Online and the Hobart Hurricanes have about 22 families. Lynette also indicated the Call Out meeting at the Eagle Creek Up and Atem Club was a success.

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 signed the papers for the Stock the Trailer program for Lake County for 2024. Because of the increase in the number of counties participating Indiana Farm Credit is increasing the awards out to 5 places this year. If they had been at 5 places last year, Lake County would have gotten an award. The Fair Board has approved the use of the Semi-Trailer being used as part of the Grand Stand for 4-H to use to store the food for the Stock the Trailer program. Amy passed out the rules for the program reminding the clubs that they could collect food early for the program, but that it could not be brought to the fair and put into the trailer until the Fair opens. It has to be stored at the leader's house until then. The food banks that Linda Dillon and Elaine Hein work at will get first choice for any food donations. Amy hopes we will fill the trailer, which will hold ~45,000 lbs.

Old Business:

Committee Sign-ups. Anyone can sign up for a committee and is encouraged to do so. You do not need to be a member of County Committee to sign up on a committee.

Shirts: Lisa Bubala brought back information on shirt costs. They ranged from a breathable Polo shirt at about \$29 to a cotton T-shirt for about \$15. After some discussion a logo with a 4-H clover and Lake County 4-H Board Member was decided upon for the left side of the shirt. A website will be set up with the vendor where County Committee members will be able to purchase as many of whichever kind of shirt they want. Options will range from sweatshirts to Polos to T-shirts.

New Business:

4-H Building. Linda Dillon requested \$100 to pay for additional tablecloths. Jackie Gerner looked it up and found that to be within the budget for the Building so no further action was necessary. Linda announced that the Club Corner and STEM Center would be switched this year. The Ambassador's Pictures will be put up on posters above the Club Corner poster boards. The 10-year and tenure members will be scrolled on a monitor put in the Club Corner area.

Volunteer Fair Passes. Last year 4-H received ~\$33,000 in free fair passes from the Fair Board. This year volunteers coming to work the Fair are being asked to sign-up online at <https://VolunteerFairPass.4honline.com> or calling the extension office. Volunteers will need to indicate what part of the fair they are helping with to get the pass. This information will be passed on to the superintendents in those areas so they can better coordinate the volunteers. Hopefully this will cut down on the number of duplicate passes some people get because of being leaders and donors, etc.

Educator Comments:

Jennifer Haynes was not able to join the County Committee as she was chaperoning a group of Indiana delegates to the National 4H Conference.

Julie Jones reminded everyone that the Ambassador, High School, and Middle School Award Resume's and Cover Letters are due May 1. All animals to be exhibited at the Lake County Fair must be registered in 4H Online by May 15<sup>th</sup>. This is a hard deadline with no exceptions. If the animal is not so registered by May 15<sup>th</sup>, the animal will not be allowed to be shown.

Julie also talked about an expansion of the 4-H program into the schools similar to what the Georgia program has. The Banneker Elementary School will have a 4-H club in each of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes next year. The students will be working on Achievement Projects that will be presented during the class time. It is hoped that some of the students will also exhibit these at the Lake County Fair. This is to be an alternative pathway in 4-H.

Julie also announced that Lake County has officially run out of 2024 4-H Handbooks and requests any leaders or members who have extras to please return them. The Handbook is still available on-line.

Patti Nichols moved to adjourn the meeting. Tom Reed seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16

Respectfully submitted,

Lin Wozniewski