

Sauk County 4-H Leader Association
Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2008

Attendance: Jean Sandmire, Jessica Jens, George Shirley, Emily Rebhan, Tina Raschein, Dan Greenwood, Marla Kluge

The meeting was called to order by President Jean Sandmire at 7:05 pm.

The secretary minutes were approved by a motion from Marla and seconded by George. Marla Kluge presented the Treasurers report for review. The current checkbook balance is \$6306.25 included in the total funds balance of \$18030.74. Checks in the amount of \$4140 were written and \$1357.28 in expenses to be approved. Leigh moved to approve the treasurers report and to pay the bills. Tina seconded and motion was passed.

Committee Reports: Fund Raising - \$3246.50 has been deposited from clubs for candy sales.

Livestock – Dan Greenwood reported the Spring Livestock meeting will be held to generate ideas for fund raising for the livestock scale house at the fairgrounds. The old scale was sold for \$825 and \$2400 is the balance due to Senior Leaders to repay the new scale loan. The sheep weigh-in is scheduled for May 3 and swine weigh-ins will be in April on the farm.

Exchange – There will be a meeting on Thursday, March 27 for interested families.

Fair – Jessica spoke before the Fair Board with several proposals. 1) The 4-H fair committee plans to discontinue use of the Badger building for displays and programs. This was okay with the Fair Board. 2) Plans are to move the Barnyard Theatre to the Sauk County Dairy Promoters tent with plans to provide a larger tent. The total frontage will be 50 feet. The 4-H fair committee met last week to decide on uses of the stage. This will include: Daycare Day, Celebrating the Arts, Fashion Revue, project demos on Sat. and HCE bake off on Sunday. Repairs of stages may be needed. 3) Action Center location – Fair Board did not approve removing the Badger building and rebuilding it. The Fair Board indicated it would support choice of location for a new building with the county 4-H checking into pricing & designs. It was the consensus of the Senior Leader board to move ahead with plans to investigate the costs and designs of a new building.

Old Business: Goal setting – One area of improvement suggested was to build communications between the Senior Leader board and club leaders. Jessica reported from the Super Saturday goal setting activity for club leaders. One of the topics discussed was the loss of club members. (Sauk County statistics show member count moved from 470 to 430.) Reasons given for not re-enrolling in 4-H included: exhibiting in FFA instead, families didn't understand or were confused about the 4-H program (lingo, procedures, etc.) The largest group of non-returning members fell in the 1st & 2nd year members. Jessica challenged the Senior Leader board to make this target group their goal to improve the dropout rate of this group. Feedback for actions to achieve this goal is needed from board members at the next meeting.

Insurance Policy – Jessica found out the replacement cost is the cost used for insured items. The livestock scale was added but guns(Shooting Sports) and rabbit cages need to be added. Questions were asked about the cost of insurance coverage for smaller items (i.e. items easily replaced). Dorothy moved to table approving the insurance policy until the outstanding items were added and questions answered. Leigh seconded and the motion carried.

New Business: Jessica reported there was a total of 272 bags of candy sold for a total sales of \$8160. \$2040 was earned by the county and \$2040 will be returned to local clubs. Dorothy reported a new Sauk Co. 4-H welcome sign was located on Hwy. 154 near the Sauk/Richland county line. Jessica reported from the Ag Extension Committee that user groups may be charged for paper for newsletters and the cost was estimated \$45-60/month for the Clover Comments. It was suggested that the administrative staff check into lower cost paper options.

Leigh moved to adjourn the meeting and Marla seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.