

VAN BUREN COUNTY 4-H LEADERS ASSOCIATION

February 17, 2020

Attendance: Mary Darling, Tina Loomis, Colleen Overacker, Nancy Wheatley, Denise Noble, Alex deFinta, Karol Chopp, Amy Mortimore, Renee Hostetler, Carisa Hostetler, Janice Zerbe, Latisha Tomsa, Porsha Tomsa, Morgan Tomsa, Jayden Tomsa, Wendy Fisher, Dillon Simpson

The regular meeting of the Van Buren County 4-H Leaders Association was called to order by President, Alex deFinta at 7:02 pm with all officers present and ten clubs represented.

Secretary Report: Karol Chopp moved to accept the secretary report with a second from Amy Mortimore with the following corrections: Nancy Wheatley seconded the minutes from January 20, 2020. Geneva Wrens made donations to ALVAN. Denise brought up giving out 4-H flyers when a family adopts a cat or dog from local shelters. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was presented with receipts of \$170.64, no disbursements and a total in the checking account of \$19833.34 with outstanding checks totaling \$67.85 and no outstanding deposits. Sub Accounts included Differently Abled (\$656.51), Capital Experience (\$620.00), Teen Club Balance (\$940.02), Moyle Memorial CD (\$1000.00) and Bea Funk Memorial Fund (\$500 in savings bonds). Motion to support was moved by Karol Chopp with a second from Amy Mortimore. Report will be placed on file for audit.

Bills / Correspondence: Three youth (Amanda, Blake and Carey Towne) will be attending Capitol Experience. Scholarships will be provided for a total of \$900.00 using the Capitol Experience line item first. Auction donations were received for a total of \$170.00 and will be deposited. A thank you was received from Trevor Schmidt for sponsoring the Susan Melvin Memorial Trophy.

Carisa Hostetler will log in to the bank statement so she may have the bank statement from the bank earlier. Carisa will meet with Alex deFinta at the bank to complete the signature requirement.

Club Sharing: *West Valley Livestock* – Their annual breakfast will be held on March 22, 2020 from 7:30 a.m. until noon at the Decatur VFW. Amy Mortimore will email flier. *Young Explorers* – participated in the South Haven Ice Fest. *Van Buren Voyagers* – built a cardboard sled for the South Haven Ice Festival, had a craft day and a winter shoot. Environthon practice started with training beginning February 9, 2020. Boater Safety will be held on March 28, 2020 at the MSU Extension from 8:00 a.m. until approximately 2:30 p.m. *Almena Happy Helpers* – collected personal hygiene items for the Mattawan Pantry. *Dream Chasers* – had a winter ride. *Silver Spurs* – made cookies for horses and had an educational class.

Outstanding 4-Her Report – No report.

Committee Reports: *Auction* – Shane Harris has agreed to be the auctioneer. Tina Loomis needs any gift cards to make certificates soon. Denise Noble has provided buyer numbers and mascot. Denise and Alex deFinta will be out of town the week of the auction. Business donation incentives were drawn with the Hostetler family receiving an Amazon gift card, the Hallgren family receiving a restaurant gift card and the Clauser family receiving a gift card to Celebrations Cinema. A press release will be sent. The Facebook page will include an event for the auction. Clubs are asked to make cash donations for the concession stand. *Differently Abled* – OAKS event will be held on May 30, 2020. The committee is getting excited.

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4-H Educator Report: *Educational Class Change* – All classes will be YQCA education classes. Pre-enrollment required. *4-H Online* – Volunteers / members can have more than one email address at a physical address. Members will be able to add classes and clubs after enrollment has been approved. *Michigan State 4-H Awards* – Three applicants were submitted. *Mark of Excellence* – One entry was received. *Volunteer Selection Process* – has been updated to an online process. The deadline to complete will be March 1st. Janice is working on catching up information from all volunteers who were grandfathered. *TSC Clover Sales* – April 29 through May 10, 2020. *Exploration Days* – will be held June 24-26. Registration will open March 10, 2020 with a total cost of \$220.00. *4-H Web page* – is being worked on. *4-H in Van Buren County* – book has been updated. Janice will email to key leaders. *Fair Judges* – Michigan State will no longer be keeping a list of judges.

Unfinished Business: *Outstanding 4-H Application* – A draft was presented. Denise Noble moved to accept the application as written with a second from Amy Mortimore. Motion carried. *Leaders Association College Scholarship Application* – was discussed. We will review at the March meeting. *An Excellent Adventure* – The current event has been cancelled due to lack of volunteers. Lots of discussion. It was suggested to have a more advanced knowledge of the date. Several clubs are doing crafts following their meetings. Should we form a committee? The event has been rescheduled for November 7, 2020 at First Congregational Church in Bangor. Start asking for volunteers. The committee will consist of Tina Loomis, Janice Zerbe, Nancy Wheatley and Amy Mortimore. *Website* – was discussed during the 4-H Educator section. *Meeting Procedure* – Meeting minutes, agenda and treasure report will be sent to members early and placed on the 4-H website. Mary will correct previous minutes, remove watermark, send to Janice so they can be posted online. *ACORNS grant to OAKS grant* – ACORNS was cancelled due to resources. Voyagers would like to transfer ACORNS grant to OAKS. Amy Mortimore moved to transfer the ACORNS grant to OAKS grant with a second from Tina Loomis. Renee Hostetler asked if there is already an OAKS grant. There is not currently a grant for OAKS. Motion carried.

New Business: *By-Law Review* – By-Laws were reviewed. Janice Zerbe suggested that the Secretary distribute minutes and President distribute agendas prior to the meeting. Proposed suggestions need to be brought to the March meeting. Quorum suggestions should be included. Mary will provide a list of attendance at the March meeting. Janice will add the by-laws to the MSU Extension 4-H page. *Fair Book Cover Contest* – There are five entries. All present voted for their top two. Winner was chosen as Allison Mroczek (WVL) with honorable mentions include Rachel Loomis (GW) and Natalie R. (AHH). *Pinewood Derby Track* – is in storage. Lots of discussion. How much interest is there? Could the track be used during the carnival? More discussion in March. *Membership / Leaders Cards* -- Janice will look for a template and discuss at the March meeting.

Expansion Review: Denise Noble made 4-H flyers to be offered to families when they adopt a cat or dog from local shelters. Fliers will be available at ALVAN, Animal Control and Adopt a Friend. Nancy Wheatley will contact Hartford Speedway to see if they would sponsor a 4-H Day.

Fair Board Update: A reminder that tags are on sale (\$2.00 each) on the Third Thursday beginning this Thursday at the Large Livestock meetings at the Van Buren Conference Center beginning at 6:30 p.m.

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Announcements: *Next meeting – March 16, 2020 at the Van Buren Conference Center beginning at 7 pm.*

2020 Van Buren Youth Fair – July 20-25, 2020

4-H Carnival and Awards – September 20, 2020

Adjournment: Denise Noble moved to adjourn the meeting with a second from Amy Mortimore. Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Darling
LA Secretary