

**MINUTES OF 4-H COUNCIL MEETING
RICHLAND COUNTY 4-H
JANUARY 31, 2005
6:00 PM - PIZZA RANCH, WAHPETON**

Meeting called to order by President Karen Weber after meal. Pledges were said. Present were Dale Siebert, Deb Evenson, Karen Weber, Hank Weber, Sheree Foertsch, Dennis Knudson, Georgia Vosberg, Darcy Heitkamp, Matt Danuser, Joan Beyer, Gale Link, and Colleen Svingen,

Secretary's report was read and approved. Treasurer's report was given out. Current balance of checking account is \$3,266.87, savings account - \$2,504.43.

Old Business:

Matt reported that nothing has been done with the fixing of the door on the 4-H building.

Kathy Diekman gave Joan information on the petting zoo hand sanitizers. The dispensers are free and the foam bag inserts will cost \$21 each- 1 liter - 1400 uses. Discussion was had. Motion was made to buy 4 packages of the liquid hand sanitizer (foam bag) at \$21 each for the petting zoo. Seconded and carried.

Family Fun and Fitness Day - February 13, 2005. Skating, Tae Kwon Do, weight-lifting, and gymnastics were added this year and the exercise part is a little different. Gale and Joan are heading up the day and encouraged everyone to attend.

Twyla Gast Ag Trip - Karen has 5 tours and rollerskating and small lunch planned for February 26, 2005. Adults are welcome. Children under 8 need chaperone.

Election of Directors - Directors are part of the executive committee. Need to elect two directors to fill two year terms. Joan Beyer and Dennis Knudson volunteered to be new directors.

Achievement Days dates were discussed. The dates of August 5 and 6 will not work for the Sisters of St. Francis and the Extension Office has conflicts with those dates.

Achievement Days was in July last year to connect with Hankinson Community Days, make it easier to have livestock, send exhibits to the state fair and to accommodate older teens in sports practices. In Wyndmere it became difficult to secure a location for livestock since the Wyndmere Community Club disbanded.

We give the Sisters of St. Francis \$100 stipend for the use of the building. The panels for the livestock show stay in Hankinson and don't have to be moved or hauled to another location.

4-H members are still able to do absentee judging sheets and will be eligible for grand and reserve ribbons.

Motion made to open Achievement Days dates to have an open vote on July 8 and 9, or July 14

and 15. Seconded and carried. Ballots were passed and votes were taken. July 14 and 15 were selected on a 6 to 2 vote. Immediately following Achievement Days it was suggested that a survey be taken to get input from members and leaders on what could be improved and what worked well.

The purpose of the 4-H Council was questioned. Karen read Article II of the Constitution which states:

The purpose of this Council is to cooperate with the North Dakota State University College of Agriculture, Cooperative Extension Service, and the Richland County Extension Service in planning, promoting, developing, implementing, executing and evaluating a 4-H program to meet the needs and interests of the youth in the county.

New Business:

Achievement Day picnic on Thursday or Friday was discussed. Sponsors of Achievement Day premiums could be invited. A sub-committee of the Achievement Day Committee will be responsible for the picnic.

Achievement Day pre-registration was discussed. Why do we have to have pre-registration? Why not have pre-registration, but let the kids bring 2 exhibits without being pre-registered. This decision will be made by the Achievement Day Committee.

Achievement Day premiums was on the agenda, but nothing was discussed.

Is there something the council can do to make a leader's job easier? We could have a question and answer section on the website. Could set up an interactive site to share information. Colleen will get this going.

Livestock education - Dennis Knudson explained a five year program for animal education. Each year the 4-H member would have a different animal for a project, rabbit, poultry, hog, sheep, cow. Taking care of the animal, showing the animal in 4-H competition, etc. could be part of the educational program. A multiple choice test on the animal could be given and at the end of the 5 years an award (savings bond) would be given. This program would enable kids to get involved with animals.

Agriculture program - Dennis also explained a plan to attach a 4-H member to a farmer - watch the crop being planted - chemicals and farming practices - and then be harvested to see what is produced off the land. A test would be given and an award. Focus would be on the education. Dale and Dennis will set down and work out the details.

Judging teams - Have had hippology teams. Suggestion to have a judging team for livestock. Crop judging was tried a few years ago, but it takes a lot of commitment. We do Consumer Choices judging here in Richland County. Building interest by the livestock and agriculture

education programs will probably build into the judging teams.

Awards form training - Try to set up a work night - When there are other competitions, such as Consumer Choices, leaders and parents could work through the award forms with a member of the awards committee.

Ski trip - We should be doing more fun things. A trip to Andes Ski Resort was suggested. The trip would cost \$15/person. Pre-registration would be required and we would meet at Andes, an adult would drive and be responsible for the kids in their car. A date was not decided on. Maybe do something else as a county, such as the Timberwolves game. Colleen will work with the Executive Committee.

Deb mentioned that only 8 raffle prizes have been turned in so far. She reminded clubs to let the Extension Office know as soon as possible what they are donating as a prize.

Rummage Sale - April 28 and 29 were suggested dates for the 4-H Rummage Sale and maybe it could be held at the Eagles for a cost of \$100. This is a Thursday and Friday. It was decided the sale should be Friday and Saturday because school will be in session. Pretty Bloomers Garden Club asked about the possibility of a plant sale in conjunction with the 4-H Rummage Sale. It was decided to let them join us. Interactive web site could be used to set the dates. Try to have a Friday and Saturday, April 29 and 30 at the Armory. Check into Colonial Rental tables.

Program Survey which was sent out in an email should be filled out by all leaders. Colleen encouraged leaders to fill out and get back to the office by Valentine's Day.

Constitution Rewrite Committee - 4 officers are working on a rewrite of the Council Constitution. Copies of the Constitution with additions and subtractions were handed out. Everyone was encouraged to look at it and give ideas to Gale, Karen, Sharon or Mary. Youth representation should be looked at. The roll of independent members has to be addressed.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:00 pm.

Deb Evenson
Stand-in Secretary