

# UNAPPROVED

## 2017 LaMoure County Parent/Leader Meeting

Sunday – October 1, 2017 at 4 p.m.

Milt Young Civic Center, LaMoure

### CALL TO ORDER

President Marla Berntson called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**Pledges:** The Pledge of Allegiance and 4-H Pledge were recited by all members.

**Roll Call:** Members in attendance included Caroline Homan, Kallie Lehr, Marla Berntson, Rani Lloyd, Kelli Just, Eva Lahlum, Eric Lahlum, Suzie Lahlum, Julianne Racine, Christina Job, Connie Bitz, and Kimberly Robbins.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Previous minutes were read by Rani Lloyd in the absence of the secretary. Suzie Lahlum made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Eva Lahlum seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved.

### REPORTS

**Officers:** Secretary Sheila Wendel was absent. No report was given. Treasurer Kelli Just briefly discussed the financial report for 2016-17. Kimberly Robbins made a motion to approve the report with the change of EYC from income to expense. Connie Bitz seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved.

### Committees:

The Achievement Days Committee consisted of Suzie Lahlum, Kimberly Robbins, Anita Strong, Rani Lloyd, Caroline Homan, Christina Job. The committee made the following recommendations to the Council:

1. Recommend finding judges' helpers other than 4-H members.
2. Recommend rotating judges every few years or ask them to judge another project area. Concern was discussed about keeping judges in categories they are familiar with so they are comfortable. Also, be sure they really know the rules so that it is comparable to judging at state.
3. Recommend clarifying the number of premium ribbons that should be awarded. Clarification will be instituted through the judges' instructions as well as a change in the premium ribbon winners' form. Another suggestion was to given to add an Award of Excellence to be determined by the Awards Committee.
4. Recommend adding a county-only class: Legos.
5. Recommend adding an open class for the public to enter and offer a small prize of \$25. Discussion was held on trying one category for a year to see how it goes. Photography was suggested and the consensus was it would be a good place to start. Instead of judging, offer a People's Choice award. Hopefully this will encourage more people to visit the static exhibits.
6. Recommend schedule changes of moving barn day to the evening and packing day to Friday.
7. Recommend changing the sponsor thank you note process. Those who write Premium Ribbon thank you notes can scan or email the thank you to Extension and mail themselves. Also, every 4-H member should be involved in writing thank you notes. The committee suggests dividing the sponsor list between clubs and having clubs write thank you notes. Discussion was held regarding the sponsor letter and whether sponsor money is specifically earmarked for Achievement Days. Past letters have specifically asked for sponsorship of premiums. This year's letter asked for support of 4-H youth development throughout the year. The recommendation was clarified that premium ribbon winners will write thank you notes for premium sponsorship and the clubs will write thank you notes to the sponsors for support of 4-H.

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## Committees (continued):

8. Recommend having an Achievement Days registration workshop prior to registration deadline.
9. Recommend that garden members who participate in Achievement Days pay county dues since they receive premium dollars. Caroline Homan explained that she felt encouraging garden members to participate is a great recruiting tool.

Suzie Lahlum made a motion to move Achievement Days scheduling and garden member fees to New Business later in the agenda. Kallie Lehr seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved. Eric Lahlum then made a motion to approve all remaining Achievement Day recommendations. Kallie Lehr seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved.

The Family Fun Night (FFN) Committee consisted of Caroline Homan, Julianne Racine, Christina Job, Kelli Just, Katie Kramer, Kallie Lehr, Suzie Lahlum, Anita Strong, and Rani Lloyd. The question was raised as to whether the Council wants to continue using FFN as the primary fundraiser. Marla Berntson brought up the point that the initial reason for starting FFN was to be a fun event to give back to the community for all the support we receive during the year. Discussion was held on how much work is going into it versus the amount of money raised. Also, there are so many events held in the communities that are similar that we are not offering anything new and exciting. BINGO along with raffle ticket sales was suggested in place of FFN. Baked goods would be the prizes. There would also be free daycare and activities for the children. Include concessions, a prize walk and possibly a silent auction. Suzie Lahlum made a motion to form a committee to redefine FFN with the recommendations discussed at this meeting. Kimberly Robbins seconded. More discussion was held about redefining the silent auction to include a theme. This will be something the committee can discuss further. Motion approved.

The Budget Committee consisted of Kelli Just, Rani Lloyd, Kimberly Robbins, Caroline Homan, and Christina Job. Recommendations from the Budget Committee earlier in the year were dispersed between the other committees which were discussed in the committee reports tonight.

The Awards Committee consisted of Marla Berntson, Connie Bitz, Caroline Homan, Kelli Just and Suzie Lahlum. The committee made the following recommendations to the Council:

1. Awards & Recognition
  - a. 50-point level: change prize to full-size notebook with 4-H clover decal
  - b. 1000-point level: change prize to a 4-H T-shirt with a fun design (not 4-H dress shirt)
  - c. Every 1000 points: change to a \$15 gift certificate to the 4-H Mall
  - d. Anything that requires an application should be approved by the leader
  - e. Promote the awards at the beginning of the year and create a checklist for members to keep track of activities. Make November Awards Awareness Month.
  - f. Activity and Event Points need to be reevaluated line by line. It was suggested that bigger trips need better point reward
2. County Contests
  - a. Recommend making awards uniform for all county contests. Prizes should be a gift card to community of choice and no participation ribbons. Use up ribbons on hand. Prizes for Consumer Choices: \$15 - \$10 - \$5; Grand & Reserve Project Expo: \$15 - \$10; Communication Arts participant: \$5 (one gift card per person no matter how many events they are registered for).
3. State Fair Reimbursement
  - a. Reinstate request for reimbursement for participation at State Fair
  - b. Request can be made via email with a deadline date
4. Achievement Days
  - a. Create an Interview Award for member that may not have a premium project but interviewed very well. Choose one per judge's table with no monetary award. Recognize recipient at Awards & Recognition.
  - b. Change ribbon cash premium amounts for Static/Small Animal Exhibit Ribbons to Blue - \$3, Red - \$2, White - \$1, Cloverbud - \$0.

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## Committees (continued):

- c. Change ribbon cash premium amounts for Large Animal Exhibit Ribbons to Blue - \$4, Red - \$3, White - \$2, Cloverbud - \$0.

Discussion was held about the online record set. Participation should accumulate more points. A member should be able to select more than one point level under the event instead of only one. It was suggested that a form be printed in November so 4-H members can keep track throughout the year and then putting it in the computer will be much easier at the end of the year. This will help apply more accountability to the 4-H member. Rani Lloyd moved to accept the Awards Committee recommendations. Eva Lahlum seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved. The Awards Committee will meet in October to develop a print form to be distributed in November.

The Bylaws Committee consisted of Caroline Homan, Christina Job, Connie Bitz, and Kimberly Robbins. Marla Berntson reviewed the proposed revision. The following edits were recommended in addition to the proposed revisions:

1. Remove the numeral 1 under Constitution Article I.
2. Add as #5 under Constitution Article V – **Quorum:** A simple majority of members present at any executive council meeting shall constitute a quorum. A simple majority vote of the executive council members present at a meeting shall determine all issues.
3. Change #1 under Constitution Article IV, last sentence – Up to two LaMoure County 4-H Ambassadors will also serve on the Executive Council.
4. Change #2 under Constitution Article V to Annual Meeting (drop the s).
5. Change #1, Section III under Bylaws Article IV, last sentence – Up to two LaMoure County 4-H Ambassadors will also serve on the Executive Council.

Discussion was held on adding a policy regarding the requirements to be a 4-H member. This spurred the discussion on whether to allow independent members. It was decided that this should be made into a policy. Discussion is tabled on this topic until New Business later in the agenda. Eva Lahlum made a motion to approve the proposed revised bylaws with the changes discussed during this meeting. Connie Bitz seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Executive Council Member Terms Ending 2017:** The position of secretary is open for election. Sheila Wendel is not eligible to be elected this year. Christina Job nominated Suzie Lahlum to be a member on the Executive Council. Connie Bitz seconded. No further nomination. Nomination approved. Rani Lloyd nominated Suzie Lahlum for secretary. Eva Lahlum seconded. No further nominations. Nomination approved. Rani Lloyd made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Suzie Lahlum as secretary. Connie Bitz seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved.

**Friend of 4-H:** Kimberly Robbins made a motion to select LaMoure Chronicle, Edgeley Mail, Kulm Messenger, and Litchville Bulletin as Friends of 4-H. Eric Lahlum seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved.

**ND 4-H Foundation Donation:** Connie Bitz made a motion to donate \$100 to the ND 4-H Foundation. Kimberly Robbins seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved.

**County Dues:** Rani Lloyd made a motion that there be no county dues for the 2017-18 year. Kimberly Robbins seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved.

**ND 4-H Program Fee:** Discussion was held about having the council set up a hardship scholarship for members who are not able to pay the fee. This topic will be tabled until the next council meeting. Discussion was held regarding the program fee and how the state and counties felt about this.

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## NEW BUSINESS (continued)

**LaMoire County 4-H Membership Criteria/4-H Age Requirements:** Youth must be enrolled in ND 4-H in order to participate in any competition, contest, or event. Youth must comply with age requirements (e.g. shooting sports); no exceptions. The Executive Council would like to hold a special meeting to create a policy for LaMoire County 4-H Membership Criteria. This topic is tabled until a special meeting to be held on Monday, October 9 at 11 a.m.

**Finalize 4-H Events Calendar:** The Council looked at options for 4-H event dates. Normally project Expo is held at the Farm Toy Show in LaMoire or Dakota Valley Electric Annual Meeting in Edgeley on alternating years. Discussion was held to combine this event with another 4-H event. Christina Job made a motion to move Project Expo to be in conjunction with Family Fun Night. Suzie Lahlum seconded. No further discussion. There were 10 members for and 1 against the motion. Motion approved. More discussion was held regarding combining other 4-H events on the same day. The Council decided to hold Communication Arts the same day as the 4-H Bowling Party. Communication Arts will be held at 2 p.m. with bowling to follow at 4 p.m. Root beer floats will be served at the bowling alley along with pizza provided by the 4-H Council. Discussion was held on possible dates for Consumer Choices and a recommendation was made to change the dates of Achievement Days. The Council will propose dates to Extension by Friday, October 6. Extension staff will send a survey to 4-H families the week of October 9 to provide input on proposed dates for Achievement Days. The Council will meet following the Awards & Recognition Ceremony on Sunday, October 29 to finalize the dates taking into consideration responses from 4-H families.

**National 4-H Week Events:** October 1-7 is National 4-H week. To promote 4-H a display will be in the window at the First State Bank Mall. A table and display will be set up at each school. 4-H'ers are encouraged to wear 4-H shirts during this week.

**Awards & Recognition:** The Awards Committee will meet Monday, October 9 at 10 a.m. to continue reviewing the awards point system and recordkeeping. The awards ceremony will be held on Sunday, October 29 at 4 p.m. Refreshments will be the same as previous years – cheese, meat and crackers along with cupcakes and lemonade. It was decided to forgo an activity this year.

**ND 4-H Service Learning Map:** Caroline Homan explained that ND 4-H is trying to map out 4-H Clubs' service projects. Caroline gave each club leader a handout explaining what they are looking for and how to submit their projects.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

## ANYTHING ELSE FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Caroline Homan reminded the Council that every year ND 4-H is looking for nominations for the 4-H Salute to Excellence Award which include the 4-H Volunteer of the Year (less than 10 years of service) and the Outstanding Lifetime 4-H Volunteer (10 years or more). Caroline would like this to be on the Council's radar to nominate volunteers for 2019. Further discussion is tabled to a future meeting.

## ADJOURN

Rani Lloyd made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kallie Lehr seconded. No further discussion. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.