

Minutes  
LaSalle Parish 4-H Advisory council  
LaSalle Parish Courthouse Extension Meeting Room  
January 14, 2010

The LaSalle Parish 4-H Advisory Council met on Thursday, January 14, 2010. Linda Franks and Brenda Gardner, Co- Chairs were present and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was then turned over to Jim Summers, county agent. Summers welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves; others present were: Elaine Grimm, Becky Boyd, Scott Windham, Keri McNeely, Jessi McNeely, Elizabeth McPherson, Alexis Hailey, Raven Hailey, Shontell Hailey, Karen Creel, Nelda Tarver, Daniel Ross, Nathan Ross, Nobie Ross, Roy Breithaupt, Andy Dunn, Mary Dunn, Maya Smith, Angie Poole, Kelly Hudspeth and Jordan Hudspeth.

Mr. Summers gave a brief situational statement as to the status of 4-H in LaSalle Parish at the present time. He stated that LaSalle had one agent assigned to the 4-H and adult ANR program. The membership as of January 14, 2010 was 491 and the club program focus for 09-10 was health-fitness and environment with an emphasis on character education.

Mr. Summers then introduced Tina Goebel, Central Region 4-H Coordinator with the LSU AgCenter, who would be facilitating the meeting. Ms. Goebel gave a brief history of 4-H in Louisiana and gave an overview of the current focus of 4-H, which is to give youth - a sense of belonging, inclusion, generosity and mastery represented by the acronym – Big M . She explained that the purpose of the advisory council was to provide assistance in identifying and prioritizing issues facing youth and to help implement programs addressing these issues.

She posed the question to the group- What are the issues facing youth? She emphasized that the mission of 4-H was to develop educational programs and activities to address the issues that they would identify and prioritize.

The council was asked to brainstorm and identify issues facing youth and to write ideas on sticky notes and then post them on a board located at the front of the room. Everyone posted their ideas on the board and through discussion the ideas were grouped into related issue categories. The issues fell into these categories- drugs, attitude, peer pressure, communication, self respect and social skills, appropriate internet and texting etiquette.

After discussion and grouping of ideas, Ms. Goebel gave each council member 3 colored dots to use in prioritizing the issues. They were asked to vote for what they felt were the most important issues by placing their dots on those issue categories. They could use their 3 votes on 3 different issues or place all on one or split them between two issues.

The top three issues identified were (1) Communication skills, including face to face communication, internet etiquette when texting, internet bullying) (2) Attitude and (3) drugs.

It was determined by prioritization that the LaSalle 4-H focus for the 2010-2011 year should be addressing internet texting communication etiquette and problems related to internet communication.

The following officers were elected to serve 2010-11. Linda Franks and Brenda Gardener-Co Chairman and Angie Poole, Secretary.

The meal for the meeting was sponsored by the LaSalle 4-H foundation and prepared by LaVone Boyd, LaSalle Parish Extension Office Administrative Coordinator.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p. m.