

## **4-H Youth Development Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

The 4-H Youth Development Advisory Committee Meeting was held Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 4 p.m. at the East Carroll Parish 4-H Office.

Miss Cynthia Pierfax, 4-H agent, opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming. She gave everyone a copy of a Power Point presentation which is attached to these minutes.

Introductions were made and then Miss Pierfax proceeded with discussion.

The LCES Mission – Extension makes a difference in people’s lives by addressing their needs through educational programs based on sound research.

Each person was chosen to participate because of: their leadership skills, the respect they receive in the community, their expertise and their connectedness.

### ALC Member Roles

Legitimizer – you will check on the 4-H agent and the 4-H program to make sure she and the program are staying touch with the needs of the parish and its 4-H members.

Ambassador – you are the spokespeople; you talk to people that can make things happen for us, such as, legislators and local government officials, voters, etc.

Advisor – you give us advice; you should compliment Miss Pierfax as well as give her positive criticism when she needs it; you should talk to the community, schools and youth to determine what knowledge “master” skills 4-H should focus on for the next year. This year’s focus for 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades is science and 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades is workforce preparation.

Strengths of the EC 4-H program:

1. Talent – youth can sing, dance, play a musical instrument, draw
2. Skills – youth know about farming, automobiles/mechanics
3. Community Support – the community has not hesitated to help 4-H with any needs this year
4. Exposure – information technology, Dual Enrollment – college courses for high school students to start receiving credits
5. Entrepreneurs – mow yards

Weaknesses of the 4-H program:

1. Laziness
2. Lack of parental support
3. Lack of jobs
4. Lack of proper housing

5. Lack of good role models
6. Economic barriers
7. Lack of technology
8. Lack of transportation

How kids benefit from participating in 4-H:

1. Learn responsibility
2. Gain self-confidence
3. Gain self-awareness
4. Learn animal sciences
5. Learn leadership skills
6. 4-H connects kids to adults
7. Gain a network of friends from other places

Some things 4-H could bring into the community:

1. Workshops – something the kids can have a hands-on experience with, such as: animal clinics, outdoor sports [hunting] – Mr. Eagles at Transylvania Baptist Church [possible volunteer], fishing – the local Bass club [possible volunteer(s)]
2. Ag Alley type program – this would need lots of volunteers
3. Resources – networking

Areas 4-H needs to focus on:

1. How to properly clean a home
2. Etiquette
3. Personal hygiene

Ms. Kelley Heimstra, 4-H regional coordinator for the Northeast region, summarized the discussion with the following: the focus this year is on science for 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades and career preparation for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. In the spring, you will need to write a goal. Your job is to talk to the community, schools and youth. You will need to decide whether to continue with science or choose another focus area. That is the council's responsibility for next year.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

Cynthia Pierfax  
Assistant Extension Agent  
4-H Youth Development  
East Carroll Parish

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