

Meeting Minutes
St. Martin Parish 4-H Advisory Leadership Council
October 18, 2007

Present:

Gabrielle Guidry → 4-H Member
Len Eisenstein → Shooting Sports & Livestock Volunteer
Liz Angelle → 4-H Parent
Hannah Thibodeaux → 4-H Member
Linda Nguyen → 4-H Member
Jackie Simon → 4-H Club Leader & 4-H Parent
Rebecca Clark → 4-H Club Leader & School Teacher
Annette D. Baudoin → School Principal & 4-H Parent
Clair Angelle Blanchard → School Board Nutrition Supervisor & 4-H Parent
Donna Latiolais → 4-H Parent
Hope Guidry → 4-H Agent
Margaret Frey → 4-H Agent

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. with a welcome from 4-H Agents Margaret Frey and Hope Guidry. Then each member introduced themselves to the rest of the group and a meal was served.

Each member reviewed the minutes of the July 2007 meeting. Len Eisenstein made a motion to accept the minutes and Clair Blanchard seconded the motion. The members voted unanimously to accept the minutes as read.

Next, Hope Guidry informed the group that each parish has been asked to have an event to celebrate the 100th year of Louisiana 4-H. An informational packet was provided to each member in attendance. This packet included general information regarding the centennial celebrations, planning sheets, marketing materials, etc.

Group members reviewed the packets and decided to hold our parish centennial celebration on March 15, 2008 at Breaux Bridge High School. This event will involve a Family Fun Day in which members of the community can celebrate the centennial as well as become involved in Health and Fitness activities. Some of the possible events included: a fun walk, individual and group games, bingo, bicycle rodeo, sack races, line dancing, and a birthday party for 4-H involving cake and punch. Other ideas included honoring the oldest living 4-H member as well as the youngest 4-H member enrolled. We would also honor our 4-H Hall of Fame nominees.

Members discussed possible ways to raise the \$2,000.00 that each parish is asked to come up with. Ideas included: clubs collecting coins for 4-H in honor of the 100 years of “change”, can shakes at various locations throughout the parish, checking with Wal-Mart to see if we can have a fundraising activity where they would match the funds, baggin’ for bucks at Winn-Dixie, and selling tickets for door prizes and participation in some of the games. St. Martin Parish will pledge to raise \$2,000.00 for the state-wide promotion of the Louisiana 4-H Centennial.

Members then reviewed the 2006-2007 4-H Annual Report that is presented at the St. Martin Parish School Board Meeting as well as the St. Martin Parish Council Meeting. This brochure gives statistics and highlights different areas of the 4-H program in St. Martin Parish.

Next, members discussed the current enrollment numbers for our parish. As of this date, we have 836 4-H members enrolled in 4-H. The low numbers in the high school grades was discussed. Clair

Blanchard mentioned that boxed lunches can be provided to high school 4-H members in order for them to attend the 4-H meeting during lunchtime.

Each member was given an updated yearly calendar of events since some of the dates were changed since the last meeting. The centennial celebration on March 15th will be added to this calendar and the updated calendar will be posted on our parish's website as soon as possible.

The next thing on the agenda was the proposed change in the way outstanding club trophies are awarded at Achievement Day. At the last advisory meeting, it was decided that we needed to come up with a fairer way to award club awards.

Hope Guidry explained that the 4-H Agents had met with Dr. Robert Richard to try to come up with a fairer way of awarding club awards. Dr. Richard had suggested that we come up with a way that clubs could compete against a standard instead of competing against each other for club awards. Proposed scoresheets were distributed and discussed. Each member voiced their concerns about the proposed change. A few felt that using only the pre-Achievement Day activities and participation did not represent the sense of competition that is a characteristic of St. Martin Parish Achievement Day. They felt as though the Achievement Day points still needed to be tallied, but the points earned at Achievement Day would be divided by the number of paid members in the club in order to get an "average points per member" score.

After much deliberation, it was decided that outstanding club trophies would be awarded to each club based on their pre-Achievement Day participation and activities as noted on the proposed scoresheets. Additional trophies would be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place clubs based on their "average points per member score" at Achievement Day. Therefore, it is possible for a club to be awarded two trophies at Achievement Day.

Members then received clarification as to where the money generated from parish 4-H dues goes. Out of the \$5.00 per member in parish dues:

- \$1.00 per member will go directly to the State 4-H Office
- \$3.50 per member will go into the General 4-H Foundation for supplies, awards – plaques, trophies, ribbons, audits, and other operating expenses.
- \$0.50 per member will go into the Conrad Gauthier Scholarship Fund

Linda Nguyen and Gabrielle Guidry agreed to serve as Co-Chairpersons of the 4-H Advisory Leadership Council. Hannah Thibodeaux agreed to serve as the Secretary of the 4-H Advisory Leadership Council.

Discussion took place about the time and date for the next 4-H ALC Meeting. The next meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2007 beginning at 5:15 p.m. at the 4-H Office in Breaux Bridge.

A motion was made by Liz Angelle that the meeting be adjourned. Gabrielle Guidry seconded that motion. Members unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.