4-H Youth Development
Advisory Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

The 4-H Youth Development Advisory Leadership Council (ALC) meeting was held Tuesday April 23, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. at the 4-H office.

Six were in attendance including the following Agcenter employees: Parish Chair/Associate County Agent Donna Lee (ANR) and Assistant Extension Agent Brandon Sostand (4-H).

Brandon Sostand opened the meeting with a welcome and thanked everyone for coming. He then gave a brief explanation of the purpose of the Roles and Responsibilities of Members form. This form explains the duties of advisory leadership council members, allows members to choose how many years they wish to commit to serving on the committee and allows the LSU/SU Agcenter to post the members name on our Web page.

Ms. Lee stated that the purpose of the 4-H ALC is to get the council members’ opinions of the 4-H program. She also stated that we are more than happy to receive criticism as well as compliments – we want to know what we need to improve on.

At this point, Mr. Sostand introduced himself, as well as Ms. Lee, as AgCenter employees. He then asked everyone to write three issues facing the 4-H program in East Carroll Parish. Once this task was completed, Mr. Sostand asked everyone to share their issues:
1. Lack in health education, economic development and recreation
2. Lack in student involvement, technology and benefits of being active in 4-H
3. Issues of motivation, funding and enrollment
4. Concern of extracurricular activities, knowledge of agriculture and leader involvement

Mr. Sostand wrote all of these issues on an easel making them visible to everyone. He then opened a round table discussion on the submitted issues. It was suggested that Mr. Sostand introduce himself to the school board, and the entire committee agreed. The committee also agreed that it would be a great idea to seek funding from all businesses to help support the 4-H program. Another suggestion was that Mr. Sostand conduct a meeting with all the previous 4-H leaders to get them re-energized in the program. Mr. Sostand brought up the question of boarding locations for livestock animals and ideas to get the livestock program started. All members had ideas of possible barns that were not
currently in use. It was mentioned that the kids need to get involved in the raising of funds – this will teach them responsibility. All committee members agreed. The committee set the date for the next meeting and agreed on a quarterly meeting schedule.

Mr. Sostand asked if there were any other issues which needed to be addressed – there was no response. The participants were then asked to take a survey and sign the Roles and Responsibilities of Members form.

While the attendees where signing the forms, Mr. Sostand touched on the successes of the 4-H program, elaborated on the cookery contest winners and talked about Food & Fitness Camp, Junior Leadership conference and Co-Op Conference participants. He also stated that East Carroll 4-H is planning to attend 4-H University. There have been numerous practices for 4-H U and great success is expected with the group of kids.

Lastly, Mr. Sostand reminded everyone to please contact him if they think of any other issues. He thanked everyone for attending and voicing their opinions. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00.

Brandon Sostand  
Assistant Extension Agent  
4-H Youth Development  
East Carroll Parish

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