



Concordia Parish 4-H Advisory Leadership Council
Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2008
Concordia Community Room, Ferriday

The Concordia Parish 4-H Advisory Council held its fall meeting on Monday, August 18 at the Concordia Community Room in Ferriday, La. Those in attendance were Wanda Carter, Alisha Hooper, Delynn Vines, Vickie Jowers, Kayleigh Jowers, Gayla Crum, Ellen Bairnsfather, Cade Crum, Jorge Gonzalez, Whest Shirley, Rebecca Cavin, Anita Ham, Elliot Britt, Jill Britt, Michelle Bethea, Crystal Bethea, Ada Palermo, and Joe Bairnsfather.

Volunteer leader Vickie Jowers, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Alisha Hooper, 4-Her, led the American Pledge and Ellen Bairnsfather, 4-Her, led the 4-H Pledge. Following the pledges, members were asked to introduce themselves and tell their association with the parish 4-H program.

The meeting was then turned over to the 4-H Agents. Joe gave an overview of the parish 4-H program for the year 2007-2008. Ada went over the financial report stressing the importance of being aware of the numbers when it came to income versus expenses and to keep in mind that one of the questions in the group activity would address this issue. A short report was given on the two major fundraisers (strawberry and citrus sale). Joe then gave a brief report on the status of the shooting sports program. Ada gave a short explanation of the difference between Service Learning Projects and Community Service projects.

Next, a small group activity was conducted by Extension Agent, Joe P. Bairnsfather. The group was divided into three smaller groups making sure there was a combination of adults and youth in each. Each group was given the following five questions to discuss and report their responses back to the overall group. Rebecca Cavin went over the responses from each group taking one question at a time. Combined responses from each group follow individual questions.

1. Our yearly focus for the 2008-09 school year is "Communication". We have chosen this area due to the many contests in 4-H that involve Public Speaking/Demonstration contest areas. We have offered a Public Speaking/Demonstration Night for 2 years but have had very little participation. Are there any specific things you would like to see us cover in this subject area and/or recommendations to get more involvement from our 4-H youth?

Billboard

Chain Message

Update website (with results of contest and pictures)

2. After hearing about our financial situation what recommendations would you have on the type of awards/number of awards that are being presented at our parish contest and our Elementary Ach. Day/ 4-H Day? (Certificates, Ribbons, Medals, Plaques, Monetary, etc)

Charge an Entry Fee ?

Ask for sponsorships

Discontinue monetary leader awards

No frames (Just present certificates)

Reduce # of awards from 5 to 3 (1st, 2nd, 3rd)

Solicit donations

Meetings-instead of agents providing food and drinks, have participants contribute by bringing food and drink items

3. As a parish 4-H program we continue to do well with clubs conducting community service activities. We would like your input on providing us with some possible areas we could focus on this year for our Parish-wide Service- Learning Project. (4-H CAN Fight Hunger Campaign, Concordia Animal Welfare Shelter, etc) In selecting a project we need to consider something that would offer all 4-Hers the opportunity to be involved and is a need of our community.

Battered women's shelter

Adopt a nursing home

Make a garden at school

Children's Home

Make things for nursing homes

Parish wide beautification project

Paint flower pots at schools

4. Currently, we have two parish fundraisers-Strawberry Sale (March/April) and Citrus Fruit Sale (November). United Way has reduced our amount of funding by 70% over the past 3 years. We are currently receiving only three (3) payments a year. Are there any other fundraisers that you feel would benefit our income or should we put more efforts into the ones we are currently promoting?

Keep the two fundraisers, Increase \$ on strawberry sale

Pecan Sale possibly along with Fruit Sale

Entry fee to tailgating contest

Sell candles

Sonic cards, pizza hut cards

Sell raffle tickets, example – 2 tickets to LSU Game

5. What recommendations/suggestions do you have that would help make our parish 4-H program attractive to more parish youth?

Make them aware of the activities going on

Have activities/project workshops after school & have parents pick them up around 5

Shooting Sports-Have dues to participate each year, Pay for rounds of ammunition and not just for the day to cover ammunition cost

Advertise in school, 4-H Rally Day

Emphasize the technology, community services, awards & scholarships

There being no further discussion, Chair Vickie Jowers adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.