



Concordia Parish 4-H Advisory Leadership Council
Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2009
Concordia Bank and Trust, Vidalia

The Concordia Parish 4-H Advisory Council held its fall meeting on Monday, August 17 at the Concordia Bank and Trust meeting room in Vidalia, La. Those in attendance were Delynn Vines, Vickie Jowers, Kayleigh Jowers, Ellen Bairnsfather, Elliot Britt, Jill Britt, Michelle Bethea, Crystal Bethea, Lynn Bock, Miranda McMurry, Shekeidra Sanders, Diana Stanley, Brittany Stanley, D’Nya Garrison, Karen Nelson, Gracyn Nelson, Tina Goebel, Glen Daniels, Ada Palermo, and Joe Bairnsfather.

Volunteer leader Vickie Jowers, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Kayleigh Jowers, 4-Her, led the American Pledge and Miranda McMurry, 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. Glen Daniels blessed the food and a short break was taken to eat.

The meeting was then turned over to the 4-H Agents. Joe gave an overview of the parish 4-H program for the year 2008-2009. Ada went over financial issues that would be affecting the overall 4-H program – the raising of dues on the state level and the procedure to order project books. Due to state budget cuts, a new procedure for distributing project books in Concordia Parish was developed by the Advisory Committee that met in April. Ada went over the new procedure for project books and the point system put in place to qualify for Achievement Day. Parish dues for this year would be \$5.00.

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. Combined responses from each group follow individual questions.

1. Our yearly focus for the 2009-10 school year is “Environment-Geauxing Green”. This is the focus area that the Advisory council recommended for the coming year. 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? (contests, workshops, etc.)

Recycling (3)

Plant trees (2)

Energy, earth and water

Explain what geauxing green means

Litter (Have a contest for “Cleanest School Campus”)

Pollution

Decorating and painting trash cans (have a contest and winning design put on trash cans at each school)

2. 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.

Collecting Pull Tabs (voted to do parish wide)

Clean Up - litter

Teacher appreciation

Elective Officials Appreciation

Council on Aging

Nursing Homes Activities at the school

Relay for Life

Decorating and painting trash cans (have a contest and winning design put on trash cans at each school)

3. Currently, we have two parish fundraisers-Strawberry Sale (March/April) and Citrus Fruit Sale (November). As of August 2009, we will no longer be receiving funds from the United Way. 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

Sell candy, bake sale

Sonic cards, pizza hut cards

Cookie dough

Cooking – sell plates, Jambalaya Sale (3)

Raffle

Car wash

4. What are the current issues facing youth in Concordia Parish? Keeping in mind that Concordia 4-H is an educational organization, what things do you feel we could do to reach out in helping with this issue?

Peer Pressure (2)

Drugs (2)

Alcohol

Internet

Bullying

Suicide

Have motivational Speakers, a 4-H TEEN Night, Body Walk

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