

LaSalle 4-H Advisory Leadership Council
October 20, 2008

Minutes

The LaSalle Parish 4-H Advisory Council Meeting was held on Monday, October 20, 2008 in the Extension Meeting room of the LaSalle Parish Courthouse, Jena. In the absence of Linda Franks, who was in the hospital, co chair Andrew Dunn presided over the meeting calling it to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present for the meeting were: Elizabeth McPherson, Nobie Ross. Andrew Dunn, Tina Goebel, Angie Poole, Scott Windham, Melinda Robison, Lessa Jones, Craig Jones, Kelly Hudspeth, Nelda Tarver, Diane Austin and Brenda Gardener.

Mr. Dunn then turned the meeting over to Jim Summers, county agent. Summers thanked all the members for coming to the meeting and invited them all to go through the line and prepare a sandwich.

The meeting continued with everyone introducing themselves and Summers introduced Tina Goebel to the group as the new Central Region 4-H Coordinator. Summers continued by presenting the situation concerning LaSalle 4-H. (See attached at end of Minutes).

Summers informed the group that the National Mission Mandates for 4-H were:

1. Science Engineering and Technology
2. Healthy Living
3. Citizenship

He said that all programming needed to involve elements that would cover one of these mandates and would instill a sense of belonging, independence, generosity and mastery for youth.

Summers informed the group that during the last club year there had been good participation in the Youth Wetlands Week program throughout the parish and five teachers had signed up to participate in the program this year.

He also informed them that several clubs had participated in service learning and some of the activities were: collecting tabs for Ronald McDonald House, Food Drives, one good deed a day and Veterans Day activities.

The group was then asked to identify some problems and issues facing youth today. Issues identified were :

1. Anger
2. Health- drug abuse, abusing prescription drugs
3. Lack of accepting responsibility
4. Environmental concerns
5. Food choices
6. Lack of adult involvement in 4-H program

7. Lack of writing skills.

The three main areas of concern were identified as Character, Health and Environment. The group determined that programs would be done related to health and environment and that elements of character education would be tied to these programs. The elements of character are trustworthiness, fairness, responsibility, respect, caring, and citizenship. All programs would promote one or more of these elements.

Officers were elected. Brenda Gardener and Linda Franks- Co Chairs and Angie Poole, Secretary. The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.



LaSalle Parish 4-H Situational Statement

October 20, 2008

During the 2007-2008 school year there were 11 eleven 4-H clubs in nine schools. The breakdown was: Goodpine 4th grade, Goodpine 5&6th grade, Jena Jr. High, Nebo Elementary, Olla 4th grade, Olla 5th grade, LaSalle Jr. High, Fellowship Elementary, Jena High, LaSalle High School and Temple Academy. The total enrollment of the parish was 435 with the racial breakdown of .5% American Indian or Alaska native, 12.6% Black or African American, .7% Hispanic, .5% Other and 85.8 white. At the present time for 08-09, there are approximately 400 members enrolled. Jena High School and Temple Academy have not had enrolled meetings as of this date.

The ten top projects in order were: Discovering 4-H, Pet Care, Horse, Foods and Nutrition, Forestry, Child Development, Photography, First Aid (Health) Leadership and Bicycle.

All the junior clubs met monthly and the senior clubs met erratically due to several factors. The program focus for the year was Character Education.

The clubs had meeting times of from 30 minutes to about 55 minutes. One of the problems is the lack of leadership within the clubs. Teachers in 07-08 were slow to volunteer as club leaders in the schools and most are appointed by the principal. They are already loaded and now they are asked to assume leadership of the 4-H Club which most feel they do not have time to do. This year (08-09) the club leaders appear to be more enthusiastic about working with the clubs.

The parish has thirteen individuals trained as overnight chaperones and ten senior club members trained as junior counselors.

We attempted to have a Junior Leader Club, but meeting times seem to conflict and attendance was low. There were 21 students enrolled in the Leadership project in 7-12 grades.

Enrolling students is challenging. The cards are designed to take home to have parents sign giving their child permission to join the club. It seems after they are sent home with them, there is difficulty in getting them turned back in to the leader. In some schools, it worked well, but in other schools, it seemed to be a problem. This year it worked much better than in the past.

In 07-08 there were approximately 80 record books submitted for judging and qualifying for Activities Day. Due to past weather and scheduling problems, Activities Day was planned for two different dates for 07-08. This was good, because the first date was a rain out, but the second day worked well. Twelve club members participated in 4-H University with three winning blue ribbons. Forty-one attended junior camp, ten attended T.E.A.M. camp and twelve participated in 4-H Day at the Capitol. Twelve participated in the livestock and horse show programs. Refer to calendar for other activities.

Several clubs did service learning projects. Following are few:

Veterans Day- visited cemetery and decorated graves of soldiers

Canned food drives

Do a good deed a day program

Build Blue Bird houses and place in community

Tree planting in park

Collecting tabs for Ronald McDonald House



LaSalle Parish 4-H Advisory Council Meeting



October 20, 2008

5:00 p.m.

Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Meal Served
- Purpose of Advisory Meeting
- Situation Statement

- Program Discussion
- Election of Officers
- Adjourn