

Vernon Parish 4-H Overall Advisory Meeting  
December 8, 2008

Members Present:

Ray Ortiz – Vernon Parish Sheriff's Department/Parent/Adult Volunteer

Tiffany Franklin – Adult Volunteer/Teacher LA4

Tonya Tilley – Adult Volunteer/Parent

Meredith Durrett – Adult Volunteer

Angela Ortiz – Youth

Nicholas Ortiz – Youth

Caleb Minion – Youth

Mandi Alford – Youth

Rae Addison – Youth

Rich Harmon – Youth

Brooklyn Robinson - Youth

Kem Johnson – 4-H Agent

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. after the meal by Kem Johnson, 4-H Agent, due to the absence of the President, Leslie Ortiz. Angela Ortiz led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance, Rae Addison led the 4-H Pledge and Caleb Minion led the group in prayer. Kem Johnson, 4-H explained that Chad Hagan, 4-H Agent, was unable to attend due to a meeting. She went on to explain the reason for 4-H Advisory Meetings and the roles and responsibilities of each member. Due to the lack of a Secretary, the group voted unanimously to appoint Tiffany Franklin, Adult Leader to the Vernon Parish 4-H Teen Leader Club to serve as Secretary. Mrs. Kem continued with the Agenda items by updating the membership on the Parish Program Review items previously discussed.

- To involve Junior High members in more activities to keep them involved in 4-H and positive experiences. Will continue to offer the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Angola Tour. The 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Capitol/LSU Tour was postponed due to lack of participation. Took 5 8<sup>th</sup> Graders to State 4-H University without incident and will continue to do so.
- To involve more youth in activities beyond the parish level. Numbers did increase a bit last year with participation at State 4-H University. Agents will continue to work with youth in encouraging participation in all activities including camps, State 4-H University, Co-Op Conference, Leadership Conference, etc.

The group then discussed the success of the 4-H Centennial Alumni Banquet which featured testimonies of 4-H alumni, recognition of the 4-H Centennial Award Winners, a steak meal, a raffle and live auction. Proceeds from the banquet and donations were all designated to the Vernon Parish 4-H Thad Bailes Scholarship Fund. Final totals were not in but were guessing close to \$5000.00. Mrs. Kem then brought up the 4-H Forestry CD that has remained dormant for over 15 years and asked the committee for their opinions of taking these funds – approximately \$1600.00 – to add to the scholarship funds. This money was originally set up for a Forestry Scholarship and never used. The group voted unanimously to transfer the

funds to the new scholarship funds. The Scholarship Committee was to meet during the Christmas holidays to discuss specifics.

Several of the Teens commented that the 4-H Teen Leader Club needed to look into offering more “fun” activities to encourage the membership to become more involved. Some suggestions were paint ball and a trip. Mrs. Kem noted that she would make that suggestion to the Teen Leader Club.

It was also suggested that a Talent Competition be added to the parish events so that we could send someone in the Talent Competition to State 4-H University. The group voted to “pilot” this contest at Demonstration Day at the Senior level.

After no further discussion, the next meeting was set for Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was then adjourned at 8:00 p.m.