



ST. JOSEPH COUNTY 4-H YOUTH COUNCIL

Regular Meeting
December 21, 2015
Courthouse Annex II
MSU Extension Office
Centreville, Michigan 49032

President: Virginia Trattles
Vice President: Scott Miracle
Secretary: Denise Skrzypek
Treasurer: Dixie Strawser
Deputy Treasurer: Jenny Bower
Media: Debbie Davis

Members Present: Cody Baker, Jenny Bower, Erika Eggleston, Angie King, Loren King, Scott Miracle, Dixie Strawser, Virginia Trattles, Wendy Walters, Barb Weston

Members Excused: Debbie Davis, Denise Skrzypek, Doug Hasbrouck

Members Absent: Jared King, Connie Myers, Craig Ulsh

- I. Call to Order:
 - President, Virginia Trattles called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. Pledges were led by Loren King.
- II. Additions to the Agenda:
 - None.
- III. Public Comment:
 - None.
- IV. Minutes from Previous Meeting:
 - None presented.
- V. Correspondence Received:
 - Thank you letter from Bill Younts for the Banquet.
 - Christmas Card from the Trustees and Staff of the 4-H Foundation.
- VI. Treasurer's Report – Dixie Strawser, Treasurer
 - A. Balance in Sturgis Bank & Trust checking account as of December 7, 2015: \$ 34,754.90
 - B. Bills needing review/approval:
 1. MSU – CWF: \$ 14.00
 2. Banquet tablecloths: \$ 18.90
 3. Livestock Association – copies and livestock belt buckles: \$ 304.60
 4. Griddles (3) for camp: \$ 30.91
 5. Farm Bureau – Insurance: \$ 453.00
 6. Certificate Covers for the Banquet: \$ 12.69
 - C. A motion was made by Angie King, seconded by Cody Baker, to accept the financial report and pay the bills. Motion carried.
- VII. Officer/Committee Report
 - A. *Horse Council Report – Scott Miracle*
 1. The council is going to hold informational meetings one half hour prior to the regular meetings to try to get more involvement. The topic to discuss will change every meeting and will start with Gymkhana for the January meeting.
 2. Christmas caroling was scheduled at Diane Zinsmaster's home on December 12 but was cancelled due to lack of interest.
 3. The council is looking into a Gymkhana clinic this winter and they need an indoor ring. Nothing definitive has been decided as they are still looking into it.
 4. Officers were elected as follows:
 - President – Diane Zinsmaster
 - Vice President – Pam Cook
 - Treasurer – Theresa Hufstedler
 - Deputy Treasurer – Cheryl Hart
 - Secretary – Peggy Geruska

B. *Fundraisers:*

1. **Milk Barn – Scott Miracle:** The question was raised as to why the Livestock Association was being billed for so much milk? Discussion was led to determine if the Buyer's Dinner was the responsibility of the Livestock Association or Youth Council. Eva is investigating.
2. **Schwan's Cares – Barb Weston:** The new campaign has started. Fliers are available with the new campaign number on them. The special promotion was to last for 30 days with the total campaign lasting six months instead of one year. However, due to current participants not changing the code for the new year, there is a chance that Schwan's may extend the special promotion for another 30 days.
3. **Tack Sale Date/Location:**
 - a. It was decided to move it to March 12 because Town and Country Horse Club has their tack sale in Mendon in February. This is dependent on if the Centreville Elementary Gym is available on that day. Virginia Trattles is contacting Centreville Schools. March 5 is the second choice.
 - b. Discussion was led about opening it up to all vendors, clubs, and surrounding counties for participation.

C. *4-H Youth Development Report:*

1. **Enrollment:** It is going well. All leaders should be enrolled immediately if not already. New leaders must enroll online and then let Eva know so that she can get them approved and start the interview process.
2. **Leader Meetings:**
 - a. Organizational Leader Meeting: went very well and was standing room only. It lasted approximately 2 - 2 ½ hours and was very informative and well received.
 - b. December Leader Meeting: went well, much better than past meetings. There was approximately 140 - 150 in attendance and the topic was "Adult/Youth Partnerships." The next and final meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2016.
3. **Award Banquet Follow Up:** Eva has the surveys. There were more comments, both good and bad, than in the past. Some discussion on ways to improve, including having two sets of food to move the line quicker.
4. **Farm Bureau "Harvest for All":**
 - a. It was a bust! Discussion regarding why included lack of communication. Eva is going to meet with Sara Trattles and Christine Balk.
 - b. Winners were:
 - 1st place: Town and Country
 - 2nd place: Farmtastic
 - 3rd place: FFA

VIII. Old Business:

- A. YC Ballots: results will be posted tomorrow (12/22). There was discussion about ways to improve participation as we had almost a twenty percent return rate this year. It was suggested to either re-district or eliminate the quarters altogether and that it should be put on the 2016 agenda.
- B. Club Audits: five clubs need to be audited. Date for audits has been tabled until January for the new board.
- C. United Way Grant: Eva and Debbie are writing the grant that is due January 8, 2016 and then United Way will set up the presentation date. Concentration must remain on 4-H Camp and Exploration Days. Angie King made a motion, Wendy Walters seconded, to increase the amount that we ask for to \$ 7500 instead of \$ 5000. Motion carried.
- D. Clover Bud Update for 2016:
 1. Rabbits and Horses will both continue for 2016. No additional species will be added as there are a few kinks that need to be worked out such as: safety concerns and communication. For 2015, we had 11 show horses and 14 show rabbits.
 2. Wording will be changed on the website to state that Clover Buds are allowed to ride horses.

IX. New Business:

- None.

X. Adjournment:

- Motion made to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.