

# VAN BUREN COUNTY 4-H LEADERS ASSOCIATION

## January 20, 2020

The regular meeting of the Van Buren County 4-H Leaders Association was called to order by President, Alex deFinta at 7:10 pm with all officers present and ten clubs represented.

**Secretary Report:** Latisha Tomsa moved to accept the secretary report with a second from Nancy Wheatly with the following corrections: Envirothon will be funded this year. Almena Happy Helpers donated four Thanksgiving baskets. OAKS 2020 is being scheduled. Enrollment incentives will be provided for 4-H members enrolled by November 1, 2019. Tod Kubiszak moved to close the nominations with a second from Renee Hostetler. Alex deFinta and Mary Darling will begin their terms in January 2020. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** The treasurer's report was presented with receipts of \$1346.50, disbursements of \$7750.00 and a total in the checking account of \$19662.70 with outstanding checks totaling \$7817.85 and no outstanding deposits. Sub Accounts included Differently Abled (\$656.51), Capital Experience (\$620.00), Teen Club Balance (\$940.02), Moyle Memorial CD (\$1000.00) and Bea Funk Memorial Fund (\$500 in savings bonds). Motion to support was moved by Latisha Tomsa with a second from Tina Loomis. Report will be placed on file for audit.

**Bills / Correspondence:** Carisa Hostetler is collecting auction donations (\$165.00).

**Club Sharing:** *Van Buren Voyagers* – had a board game night, they are building a cardboard sled for the South Haven Ice Festival. They are in the process of signing up FISH leaders. *Almena Happy Helpers* – prepared 280 stockings to donate to the Mattawan Food Bank. *Geneva Wrens* – made donations to AIVAN and worked at concessions. *Silver Spurs* – made food donations for PORCH and went bowling. *West Valley Livestock* – held a holiday crafting day with lunch and caroling. *Porter Busy Fingers* – had a Community Service guest speaker and went bowling. *Dream Chasers* – adopted a family and went caroling.

**Outstanding 4-Her Report** – No report.

**Committee Reports:** *Auction* – Renee Hostetler and Amy Mortimore are co-chairs for the event. Amy will serve as the main contact. The website will not be available when the contract is complete. Tina Loomis is in charge of the food booth and is accepting cash donations. Some clerks are available. CWF participants will be available to assist. Leaders Association will be accepting donations up to the day of the auction. The Facebook page is public. Denise Noble will send Gary Consford information regarding donations. *Differently Abled* – OAKS 2020 meeting will be held on February 5, 2020. OAKS event will be held on May 30, 2020.

**4-H Educator Report:** *Enrollment Incentive* – list of members chosen was sent to key leaders in December 2019. *Spa-Delicious* – had a good turnout. *Club Officer / Parliamentary Procedure* – class is scheduled for February 10, 2020. *TSC Clover Sales* – April 28, 2020 through May 5, 2020. Clubs are encouraged to be involved at both locations. *4-H Awards / Mark of Excellence* – Applications are due February 1, 2020. Awards presentation will be on Wednesday evening during Exploration Days. There will be some changes including senior interviews will be conducted online. *Fair Book Cover Contest* – Entries will be judged at the Leaders Association meeting on February 17, 2020. *Kettunen Center* – is asking for feedback. Please provide. *Volunteers* – Janice Zerbe described the process. Please send her names and email addresses of potential adult volunteers. Spouses / Leaders need to have individual email accounts.

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**Unfinished Business:** *Participation Fee Grants* – One application has been received (Leopold Project Training). The cost of the grant would be \$390.00. Mary Darling moved to support the grant with a second from Nancy Wheatly. Motion carried. *Outstanding 4-H Member award*. There was lots of discussion. Updated application suggestions were presented. Discussion continued regarding scholarship (\$1000), two positions can be awarded (2 @ \$500.00). It was suggested to change the current application to a cover letter, resume and 4-H story. Janice will send the application to key leaders for additional feedback. *An Excellent Adventure* -- The deadline to volunteer to teach a class is February 1, 2020. Denise Noble moved to have the entry fees to the Leaders Association with a second from Wendy Fisher. Motion carried.

**New Business:** *Bank Account Signatories* – Latisha Tomsa moved to remove Gary Consford from the bank accounts and add Alex deFinta with a second from Wendy Fisher. Motion carried. Alex will meet Carisa at the banks needed. *Website* – MSU Extension Van Buren County will create a 4-H page that will contain minutes from Leaders Association, 4-H Horse Council and Domestic Animals. It may also include 4-H forms, deadlines, county newsletters and award applications. *Meeting Procedure* – It was suggested to send agenda, minutes and treasurer report to key leaders prior to the meeting. Discussion followed. It was mentioned that there are other members that are not key leaders. We will work to provide the requested documents a week prior to the meeting. The venue was discussed. Janice will check the availability of the MSU Extension Office and report at the February meeting.

**Expansion Review:** Discussion took place regarding how 4-H can reach new members and leaders in other populations. Discussion took place regarding more promotion of events, member accomplishments and scholarships. Denise brought up giving out 4-H flyers when a family adopts a cat or dog from local shelters. Denise will contact shelters and create flyer. Janice is willing to make the copies of the flyer.

**Fair Board Update:** No update.

**Announcements:** *Next meeting* – February 17, 2020 at the MSU Extension Office, Hazen Street, Paw Paw beginning at 7 pm.

*2020 Van Buren Youth Fair* – July 20-25, 2020  
*4-H Carnival and Awards* – September 20, 2020

**Adjournment:** Amy Mortimore moved to adjourn the meeting with a second from Colleen Overacker. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Darling  
LA Secretary