

**La Crosse County 4-H Parents and Leaders Association Board
Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, March 10, 2022

Hamilton Town Hall

Present: Kirsten Harris, Heidi Groth, Linda Saley, Peggy Maricle, Pam Hoth, Corey Sjoquist, Rick Shisler, Kimberly Young, Mikayla Fechner, Carolyn Christopherson, Emily Crook, Summer Maricle, Tina Langrehr

6:45 Open Forum: None

Call to order: 6:57pm

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve was made by Heidi, seconded by Kimberly. Approved.

Secretary's Report: February's Secretary's Report was shared via email. Corrections were noted. Motion to approve as corrected was made by Heidi, seconded by Carolyn. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: February's Treasurer's Report was shared by Linda. Motion to approve was made by Kimberly, seconded by Carolyn. Approved.

Extension Office Update and Report: by Emily

Masking Situation:

La Crosse County is in the low CDC COVID category so masking is no longer required at events.

Brain Reframe:

Emily is leading a 10 week virtual program beginning next week for 5th-8th graders from around the state. They will be learning about the biological makings of their brains and how to use mindfulness to reframe their brain.

Emily's 2022 Outreach plans-update:

Emily was working to organize a Teen Court for the LaCrosse area and discovered that the program already exists in our area.

She is also on a State committee that is reorganizing the Volunteer VIP training requirements. She asked board members to weigh in as to whether they thought the training would be more appealing as a 1.5 hr in person training or broken into 3 smaller online trainings that could be completed at the volunteer's convenience. All members weighing in agreed that the 3 shorter online training would be more appealing and accommodating.

CRVC breakfast: canceled 2022

The Coulee Region Volunteer Coordinators annual breakfast is canceled this year.

Agricultural Society Rep. Report: by Carolyn

The Ag Society has not had their meeting yet this month. Carolyn attended the Livestock meeting and shared her concerns about some fundraising methods and membership fees for the youth.

Ambassadors Report: by Summer

Tubing Update:

The Ambassadors had a fun snow tubing day at Fort McCoy. Three Ambassadors took part in the event and they all enjoyed the day, staying until the tubing hill closed for the day.

In March they will be having a longer meeting including pizza and a Decision Making Workshop by Sandra Elsen.

Committee Reports:

Trip Scholarship Update:

The board voted by email this past month to have youth pay 50% down for any trips they are taking. Upon returning from their trip, the board will reimburse ½ of their down payments.

Kate and Emily Fechner have completed their interviews for Citizen Washington Focus and they were very well prepared and did a nice job on the interview. Walter Ranis is still waiting to hear the dates before deciding if he will be able to participate in the trip. He has requested to submit his interview in video format.

Expressive Arts Update:

Expressive Arts Fest will be held at Christ St. John's in West Salem this Saturday. There are approximately 50 youth signed up to participate. There will be light snacks and water available at the event for the youth and ribbons will be awarded immediately following their individual presentations.

Emily is looking at moving the Expressive Arts Festival to January next year because March seems to be a busy month for youth.

Promotion/Marketing Committee Update:

Emily has been getting invites to have 4-H represented at area events. The Home Runners club will be representing 4-H at an area school event in April.

There is another event in August in Medary looking to have 4-H have a booth.

Heidi offered to put together a supply bin for events that will include some simple handouts and marketing items.

The 4-H float is in need of updating. Rick will take a look at it and let us know what is needed. Board Representatives should mention to their clubs that the float is available for any clubs wanting to use it for parades.

Food Stand:

The Foodstand club meeting will be held after Easter, the date is still being determined.

The slushie machine is not in the food stand yet, but it is coming. To have it accessible to both sides of the food stand, the committee is looking at putting it in the seating space between the stands and altering the counter so that it will be accessible.

Unfinished Business:

Clover College

The event was a success. The total cost spent so far was \$871.43.

The lunch went well and the club made \$212 for the day.

Emily would like to change up the demonstrations and Illustrated talks for next year and offer them during the lunchtime to give them a wider audience.

Heidi made a motion to pay \$500 to the Bangor school for the use of their space for the event. Kimberly seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

New Business:

Scholarship Discussion - Senior Applicants

We had four graduating youth submit applications for scholarships. We have budgeted for up to five scholarships at \$300 each. The applications are available to be reviewed on the Google drive and board member can review them before the end of March.

Corey made a motion to award the scholarships on March 31st, barring any board member raising concerns of any of the recipients. Heidi 2nd the motion and the motion was approved.

Area 13 Events funding discussion/thoughts:

Currently Emily has been using her office account to cover costs for Area 13 activities that are later reimbursed. She suggested it may be more appropriate for the Leader's Board to cover these temporary costs. The board would like further information on how other counties work this and plan to discuss it further at the April Board meeting.

National 4-H Week/Craft Fair:

Peggy brought the idea to Emily to have a youth craft fair to celebrate National 4-H week in October. There was discussion about where the event should be held with multiple ideas shared. Since it would be the same weekend as the Oktoberfest Races, it was suggested that it should be held in West Salem. Suggested locations included the West Salem Legion, a West Salem school gym or the Presbyterian Church. The discussion will be continued at the April Board meeting.

Money discussion from Linda:

The Trail Blazers' club accounts have been closed and the balance of \$2788.26 was sent to the Leader's Board. The funds will be deposited in the Community Foundation Account.

We are able to receive a distribution of up to \$1100 from the Community Foundation this year. Carolyn made a motion to take the full \$1100 distribution on July 1st of this year. Heidi seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

We have a CD coming due from 1st National Bank. As of 3/15/2022 it will be worth \$5524.77. Pam made a motion to cash out \$524.77 to deposit in our general fund at Union State Bank and put the remaining \$5000 into another 5 year CD. Carolyn seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Future Agenda Items:

Scholarship Spreadsheet Update

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 7th at 7pm.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn was made by Kimberly, seconded by Carolyn. Motion was approved and meeting was adjourned at 8:24pm