

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

April 13, 2023– Hamilton Town Hall (Open Forum 6:45, Meeting 7:00 p.m.)

Open Forum: Hannah Johnson, Kevin Hegland - Advanced Space Academy

Attendance: Shari Hegland, Linda Seely, Carolyn Christopherson, Tina Langrehr, Kristen Harris, Pam Hoth, Mikayla Fechner, Emily Crook, Josie

Call to order: 7:15 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Carolyn to approve as sent, second by Mikayla - approved

Secretary's Report: February minutes – moved by Mikayla to approve as presented, second by Carolyn - approved

Treasurer's Report: February & March – moved by Shari to approve as presented, second by Carolyn - approved

Extension Office update and report:

- Foods Workshop Update: The workshop was held in March as a suggestion from the ambassador group. 15 signed up, 11 attended. Positive feedback from parents about both the food questions plus additional fair questions that could be answered. May look at switching it off with a different fair-focused event next year. Possibly life skills, communication, presentation.
- Craft Fair: scheduled for October 14, 2023 – Venue TBD. Emily met with OmniCenter regarding the possibility of co-oping with the show there with a space in an adjacent room; cost is not yet known.
- Achievement Celebration: October 26, 2023 – space reserved at the Lunda Center at Western Technical College.
- Camp Counselor/Chaperone Report – we have 1 counselor and 2 chaperones – about 11 campers are currently registered but we have historically had 25. Working to get a bus, but comparing costs. May 6 is counselor training day; inviting chaperones to attend as well.
- Club Leadership Transitions – Have heard in the last year of leaders looking to pass the baton, but unsure about how to do it. Emily got together with four of them to talk and brainstorm. They created individual plans for each club. Challenges clubs are facing: People don't commit to things as much as they used to. This may create a need to adjust how clubs function. One example would be sharing tasks (communication, activities, dealing with extension, mentoring) among multiple individuals vs. having one overall leader. Reasons for transitions include a leader moving (Barre Badgers) and a club without younger members coming up (Mississippi Mud).
- WI 4-H Foundation county page - The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation has a website which includes county-specific information and giving opportunities, even though we do not use them as a conduit for donations; we use La Crosse Community Foundation. There was an opportunity to update this page, though we missed the deadline. For next year we may want to consider updates or linking to our La Crosse Community Foundation page.
- WI 4-H photo shoot - La Crosse was one of three counties selected for photos to be taken as part of a new marketing campaign working with Vendi, a La Crosse-based agency. Details TBD, but it is expected to take place sometime before the end of July.

- Surveying Update (Josie) – She has 3 more surveys to do; were only 3 of 18 clubs/projects that she has not been to. Lots of good results of interests for clubs. Will be compiling for each club leader. Grades K-2 – biggest interests are animals/legos; grades 3-5 – more animals; grades 6-8 animal management and math; grades 9-12 – life skills, leadership, communication, taxes.
- Summer Academy (formerly Wisconsin 4-H Conference) – 4 members signed up as of now; registration closes end of April.
- Recognition breakfast – Wednesday, April 26; consider for next year as we missed the deadline
- Volunteer recognition next week – Emily will send an email with links for self-evaluation information; to share a 4-H story; link to county resource survey. The general theme of the email will be “we want to hear from you because we appreciate what you do.”
- Scholarships for three seniors were approved by the board via email in March.

Agricultural Society Rep. Report (Carolyn):

LYL meeting was April 5. Discussion included:

- a fundraiser at Hunters on May 5;
- requirements youth need to exhibit;
- Pork Producers Twilight Meeting June 5 – they hope to have live animals to judge that night;
- the process of becoming a nonprofit instead of an LLC.

The Ag society meeting was primarily re: fair organization. Music for the track is on hold; the ag society has bands booked for the beer tent Friday and Saturday.

4-H Ambassador Report (Mya Hoth): Next meeting April 30

- 4-H Day Camp - August 2nd, 10am-1pm, Erickson Park, \$10, grades 3-6. The ambassadors have established a budget; fee includes a t-shirt. The theme will be “Woodsy Trees” with activities including nature hikes, log rolling, etc.
- New VP – Alexa Heitkamp

Committee Reports:

- Float Storage Report: (Pam Hoth) – Travis Bores is housing the float currently; no time frame to get it out. It can come back to the fairgrounds at any time (but would need to be removed for the fair). Have not started working on it yet; they have most of the supplies – lighting, paint, lattice work, fringe. Will keep it mostly the same – outdoor carpet should be fine. Redo the signs to include a QR code and website, as well as the phone number – working with Emily to find a sign company that can do it. Checking initially with Signarama. We do have a budget established. Emily will send out drafts of the banners – possibly 3 (both sides and back).
- Budget Committee Prep: (Linda) – She is starting to put it together, then would want to get together with a couple of other board members. TBD (see action under new business)
- Expressive Arts & Clover College facility fees/donation as a good will gesture: (Linda) – Carolyn moved to give \$150 to St. John’s Church for Expressive Arts and \$500 to Bangor Elementary School for Clover College; Kristen second; approved.

Unfinished Business

- Graduating Senior 4-H Report (Emily): This year she is honoring both 12th graders and those in their 13th grade year (in the future we will only honor 12th graders). This year 38 will receive decals with a congratulation sheet and a note reminding them to come back and visit, and to use their 4-H leaders as references. Total cost \$243.05.
- Food Stand Contract Lease Request/Discussion (Linda): The lease was presented for the term of July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024. Key elements include:
 - Use of the stand for fair and Oktoberfest weekend;
 - We are required to be open during open hours for fair;
 - We are allowed to do upgrades and set up, etc... at other times;
 - The building cannot be used by other parties;
 - We will split profits 50/50 from Oktoberfest weekend (ag society will provide workers for Friday; 4-H leaders association will provide Saturday workers).
Oktoberfest weekend – 4-H works Thursday (11 a.m. to 3 p.m. - set up and small sandwich menu); ag society works Friday (9 a.m. to 3 p.m.); 4-H works Saturday. There was discussion regarding the challenge getting ag society volunteers, along with the smaller earning from the weekend, but no changes were proposed at this time.
 - Motion to approve rental agreement by Mikayla, seconded by Pam -approved.

New Business:

- Wisconsin Leadership Council Scholarship Discussion – According to our bylaws, the board may approve a TBD amount to support members who are a part of this statewide council. Being a WLC member involves travel and attendance at various events throughout the year. Heidi Groth estimated \$250 in travel expenses for the year. We discussed that providing scholarship support could be a good way to encourage members to be involved in statewide activities and leadership development. Kristin moved that we budgeted to provide a scholarship for Wisconsin Leadership Council of \$200 per youth attendee per year, subject to attending all required retreats and events and presenting to the 4-H Leaders Board annually. Carolyn second. - approved
- Fund Request - Family in Need/Horse Project – A request was made by a drill team leader on behalf of a family for the estimated costs of three trips taken by the drill team. The board declined to take action.
- La Crosse Community Foundation grant dollars (Linda): Last year we took out \$1,100 as a distribution; this year would be \$1,100 again. We can request full, partial or no distribution and can choose to have the distribution made ASAP or receive in the following month. Last year was in July (beginning of new year). We could also choose whether or not to be listed in the LCF's annual report. Motion by Pam to take out the full amount, to be received in the month of July and to approve being listed in the distribution report. Seconded by Carolyn. Approved.
- Funds transfer (Linda): Prior to fair, she typically transfers \$5,000 from 1st Community money market to share draft to use for the food stand; she has already transferred \$500 for other expenses and so would request approval to transfer another \$4,500 to be ready for pre-fair deposits, etc. Moved by Pam to allow the transfer of \$4,500, seconded by Mikayla -approved.

- Budget Prep (Linda): Would like additional input from other members or a committee. Budget should be approved in our May meeting. Committee volunteers: Pam and Kristen.

Future Agenda items:

- Budget

Next Meeting: May 11, 2023