

Bayfield County 4-H Leaders Association
Monthly Meeting
Monday, September 17, 2007 Ashland Research Station

President Kim Pearce called the September meeting of the Bayfield County 4-H Leaders to order at 7:00p.m. at the Ashland Research Station. Pledges were led and roll call was taken. Cable Badgers: Kathy Lang; Gitche Gumees: Renae Strand, Tia Stai, Melitta Holte; Pioneers: Sandy Rau; Whispering Pines: Linda Kavajecz; Ashwabay: Eileen Devine; Friendly Valley: Terri Bahe; Ino Valley: Glory Bizub; Woodland Workers: Verne Gilles, Kim Pearce and Julie Stipetich; 4-H Youth Educators: Ian Meeker and Donna Ganson; and Guest: Carolyn Maunu, Fair Superintendent for the Exhibit Hall.

The secretary's report was read by Julie Stipetich. A motion to approve the report was made by Renae Strand and seconded by Sandy Rau. Motion carried.

Verne Gilles gave the treasurer's report. Discussion followed about the Community Garden monies. Renae Strand made a motion that at the end of 2007 the Garden Tiller Maintenance funds and the Green Thumb Garden Project funds be turned over to the Master Gardener Program and cease to be affiliated with Bayfield County 4-H as recommended by the executive board meeting (motion on 5-21-2007). The motion was seconded by Terri Bahe and the motion carried. The reason for the disassociation is that 4-H members are no longer involved in the Community Garden Project. Renae Strand made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Eileen Devin seconded and motion carried.

A thank you note from Zach Beeksma was read by Kim Pearce. Zach thanked the leaders association for the scholarship he received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Verne Gilles reported that the **Food Booth** had a profit of approximately \$3300, down from last year's profit. Discussion regarding the food booth shifts included suggestions to allow a smoother transition from one shift to the next by printing instructions for each club, including the number of people required at each station in the booth and the duties at that station. Making shakes and malts in a timely manner continues to be a problem. Suggestions included the possibility of using/purchasing soft serve ice cream. It was also suggested to continue to use local products as much as possible. All suggestions/issues will be considered at the next meeting of the food booth committee. Nancy Gromala, this year's food booth manager, has expressed a desire to manage the booth again next year.

The **Awards, Recognition and Records** committee reported that older member interviews will be conducted on Saturday, September 29. Discussion followed regarding the funds for awards that are supplied by the county at the awards dinner. It was suggested that the leaders association use their own monies to purchase awards. After discussion, the consensus was to continue to allow the county to fund awards, and "extra" leader association funds be directed into the development of specific projects. A specific

project that could use financial help at this time is archery. The number of youth interested in archery is growing and equipment is minimal. A process for allowing leaders to apply for funds will be discussed at a later time.

SET, Science, Engineering and Technology, is a national 4-H initiative to encourage youth to explore science and related topics. The **Focus Theme** for 2007-08 Bayfield County 4-H will be science, engineering and technology. Suggestions to help carry out this theme included a county science fair, explorations in robotics, a field trip to the Minnesota Science Museum, and invitations to area science teachers to share an area of expertise. Donna Ganson stated that the new Cloverbud packets include many experiments related to science. Eileen Devine and Julie Stipetich expressed an interest in serving on the Focus planning committee. Any one else interested in getting involved with the planning committee for SET activities should call the 4-H office.

NEW BUSINESS

An open discussion for comments and suggestions about the **Bayfield County Junior Fair** was held. Renae Strand, Superintendent of Plant and Soil Sciences, and Flowers and Houseplants, had several suggestions from the judge for exhibits in these projects. Also, Renae has volunteered to organize materials for each club to make a banner to decorate the Verne Gilles Garden Building. Ian Meeker will send Renae a list of the clubs in Bayfield County and a contact person for each club. Renae will present each club with a banner that 4-H youth can use their own creativity to design and decorate. More information about this project will be included with the banner.

Carolyn Maunu reported that overall the fair was a wonderful success. She thanked the superintendents of the non-animal exhibits who did a terrific job throughout the fair. Carolyn had suggestions that will be discussed with the fair committee. One of the suggestions was that the exhibit hall be allowed to stay open until 6:00p.m. It was also mentioned that the fair carnival, Spectrum, is trying to encourage the fair committee to have one gate fee that includes grandstand events and carnival rides. There was mixed reaction to this news, with some leaders in favor of the proposal and others opposed to requiring senior citizens to pay for activities they may not participate in. The final decision will be made by the fair committee.

Ian reported that the fair committee will support clubs that have specific by-laws regarding the requirements for 4-H members to exhibit at the county fair. The fair committee will not over-ride any rules or by-laws that a club establishes. Leaders were reminded to be sure that exhibiting requirements were clearly stated to all 4-H members.

Donna Ganson handed out **enrollment packets** to all of the club leaders and explained some minor changes to the materials. Enrollment information will be due to the 4-H office the end of October.

The **Awards Dinner** for 4-H families will be held on Saturday, October 20, at the Benoit Community Center. Each family member attending the dinner will be asked to pay \$2.00. Meat, bread, beverages and dessert will be provided, and each family will be asked to bring a non-dessert dish to pass. A silent auction will also take place at the dinner.

CLUB UPDATES

Julie Lupa reported that **Pine Creek** has not had a recent meeting and that she is resigning as general club leader.

The **Woodland Workers** had a meeting the day after the county fair. Members shared experiences and awards from the fair. A hayride is planned for the September meeting, and they plan a display at JCPenney for National 4-H Week.

Terri Bahe state that **Friendly Valley** did not have an August meeting due to the fair. A September meeting is difficult to plan with many members involved in sports, so an October meeting is planned

The **Cable Badgers** worked a shift in the food booth, and also worked at the spaghetti feed at the Fat Tire Festival in Cable, reported Cathy Lang. The club is looking for a new general leader.

The September meeting of the **Gitchee Gumee** club was well attended according to Tia Stai. Members were required to turn in their record books and new officers were elected. The club has a hayride and Halloween carnival planned in October.

Sandy Rau reported that she is retiring as general leader of the **Pioneers** club. Ian Meeker will visit their club to discuss plans for transitioning organizational leadership.

Ino Valley 4-H members turned in their record books at their last meeting stated Glory Bizub.

Eileen Devine stated that **Ashwabay** members spent some time working on record books, their young members will be encouraged to continue record keeping.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The executive board of the leaders association will meet on Monday, October 15, at 6:30 at the Bayfield County Courthouse.

The next Bayfield County 4-H Leaders Association Annual Meeting will be held on November 26, at 7:00. The meeting location will be determined at the executive board

meeting in October. The meeting will include an election for treasurer of the organization.

The Pumpkin and Largest Sunflower Head Contest will be held on Saturday, September 22, from 9 – 10 a.m. at the Ashland Research Station.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sandy Rau, seconded by Tia Stai. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Stipetich