

**Dodge County Leader's Association
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2004**

Attending: Lucas Caine, Gert Grebel, Julie Guenterberg, Pat Hahn, Laurie Hron, Charlie Lindegarde, Deb Merfeld, Diane Neff, Jane Schmidt, Sally Schoenike, Penny Seaver, Carrisa Schulz, Helen Weisensel, Janet Zander

Absent: Nicole Dougan, Linda Behling, Betty Tietz

President Deb Merfeld called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Secretary Report

The Secretary's report was read and corrections were made. Penny Seaver moved to accept the minutes and Diane Neff gave a second. The motion passed.

Treasurer Report

Helen reported a balance of in the checking account and in the money market. No bills were presented. Unofficial receipts for the food stands are estimated to be \$16,000, Fish pond \$850 with \$200 in expenses so far, and \$377 in Quilt raffle tickets.

AGENDA ITEMS

Vision to Action planning Still planned for Saturday, Oct. 9, 9am – 2pm.

Fair Fish Pond This event was judged successful and planning is already in progress for the Old Time Gathering and the 2005 Dodge County Fair. Thanks were given to Janet Zander for organizing this new event!

Fair Promotion Booth Carissa Schulz reported that the booth was successful and well attended.

Fair Silent Auction/Pie Auctions Sally Schoenike reported that both events were successful and \$380 was raised by daily pies, while pies sold at the Dairy Recognition Auction drew \$1,750.

Youth Building Addition The addition is completed.

Fair Food Stands Jane Schmidt reported on the Cream Puff stand. Sales were up and a backup machine for next year is already arranged. Penny Seaver reported on the Pizza wagon. Both Emil's and Park Plaza pizzas were sold and baked potatoes did very well. Diane Neff reported on the Farm Bureau stand. Sales were good but some clubs did not show up for their shifts. Discussion followed on how to resolve problems with food stand staffing. Some clubs still did not work a single slot. Some clubs change workers too often. A suggestion was made to offer a limited number of food coupons to each shift. A suggestion was made to review the sign-up sheet for a contact person on each slot, prior to the fair.

Fair Book Revisions Sally Schoenike mentioned that departments will meet to review this fall to review their section of the fair book. Superintendents will also receive fair evaluations. All changes should be in before the end of the year.

Special Emphasis Activities Laurie Hron reported that scrapbooks were a big hit at the fair and will also be displayed at the Old Time Gathering. "Feast by the Fire", scheduled for Oct. 2 at Marshaven, 4-9pm; two clubs have registered their entire club.

Family Picnic 120 people attended.

Endowment Fund Committee The Endowment Fund Committee met in July. They changed how some of the money was invested to avoid a fee that was being charged. They have designed a grant proposal process, but it was not ready to be presented. A special board meeting will be held before the next Leaders Meeting to discuss it.

Government Education Program is winding down.

Gun Show Food Stand will be held August 26th at the fairgrounds.

Officer Candidates 2004-2005 Only a few leaders have volunteered to fill officer slots for next year's board. Some board members expressed interest in serving another year, or in another role. Questions were asked & answered about open slots and additional names were suggested. Most positions had at least one name by the end of the discussion. Deb Merfeld will continue to work on open slots.

Other Business Sally Schoenike notified the board that Kathy Hetzel's husband has died and that Jessica Schlueter would like to receive letters. The Constitution Review committee will have their 1st meeting after the September Leaders Meeting. Julie Guenterberg asked for an update on the \$10,000 put aside for bathrooms at the fairgrounds. Many of the board members voiced opinions that this money does not need to be spent on bathrooms, since the stand alone bathroom project was never approved by the county. Some members suggested that it could be spent on other youth building projects, while some felt a committee should be formed to investigate how best to use the funds. The money is in a 19 month investment but it was unknown when this is coming due. No decisions were made.

Penny Seaver raised a concern about poor beef herdsmanhip at the fair. Sally Schoenike mentioned that Bonnie Borden is thinking about offering training on herdsmanhip. This led to a discussion about concerns in the Dairy area and that families that exhibit in 4-H don't always tie up their animals with their 4-H club, thus missing an opportunity for older members to lead & train less experienced youth. A suggestion was made that board members go to the Dairy Youth advisory committee with these concerns. Sally Schoenike explained how scout troops and FFA chapters can qualify to enter items in the fair. Board members agreed that the fair should be an educational experience.

Pat Hahn moved to adjourn the meeting; Charlie Lindegarde gave the 2nd. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 9:02pm.

Next Meeting:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 19, 2004 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Guenterberg