

Meeting Minutes
St. Martin Parish 4-H Advisory Leadership Council
July 17, 2007

Present:

Gabrielle Guidry → 4-H Member
Rebecca Clark → 4-H Club Leader & School Teacher
Annette D. Baudoin → School Principal & 4-H Parent
Vickie Albert → 4-H Club Leader & 4-H Parent
Melinda Tauzin → 4-H Parent
Etta H. Brew → Retired Home Economist
Clair Angelle Blanchard → School Board Nutrition Supervisor & 4-H Parent
Donna Latiolais → 4-H Parent
Jimmy Blanchard → School Board President
Hope Guidry → 4-H Agent
Margaret Frey → 4-H Agent
Debbie Cormier → Administrative Coordinator

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. with a welcome from 4-H Agents Margaret Frey and Hope Guidry. Then each member introduced themselves to the rest of the group.

Next, the agents used PowerPoint presentations to discuss, review, and explain the following:

1. The objectives of the meeting
2. The history, mission, and goals of 4-H and extension
3. The organization and funding of the LSU AgCenter
4. The purpose of the 4-H Advisory Leadership Council
5. Why members were chosen
6. Members responsibilities and qualifications
7. The LCES programming process including the Logic Model
8. The extension programming cycle

Agents then gave an overview of the St. Martin Parish 4-H Youth Development Program and members were able to review last year's 4-H Calendar of Events and Activities. Members were told that the focus for the coming year's educational programs would be health and fitness.

Agents then led the group in a brainstorming activity with the following prompt:

What are the needs or issues facing the youth of St. Martin Parish at this time?

The members came up with the following issues: peer pressure, bullying, family problems, health and fitness, drugs & alcohol, manners or political correctness, social activities for kids, and Internet or computer safety

Participants were then asked to vote for three issues that they thought were the most important. Members then considered the following for each of the top issues: Where are we now? What are some barriers to reaching our goals? What are some solutions? What are the final goals?

The following ideas were discussed:

Health and Fitness

- Family Fun Day (possibly at BBHS – barn, field, and track)
- Games and activities
- Fun Walk and fundraiser
- Educational booths
- Competitions involving fitness activities
- Teen Cook-off featuring healthy food choices
- Team or school teams competing against each other in activities for Achievement Day points

Social Activities

- Dances (rotating locations so everyone in the parish could attend)
- 4-H Bingo
- Activities that could tie in with manners

Manners and Etiquette

- Educational sessions on manners at Project Fun Day
- Banquets where they could demonstrate manners (could tie in with social activities)
- Possible Achievement Day contests
- Get teachers to give out incentives to those who show good manners

Internet and Computer Safety

- Educational programs with presentations by the sheriff's office or the attorney general's office about Internet predators (Kids don't think anything bad can happen to them – let them experience it first-hand)
- Involve the whole family in presentations
- Presentations at school

Members were asked for recommendations for increasing volunteer participation. Members thought that the main way to increase volunteers was just to ask people for help. Some suggested asking 4-H leaders for names of helpful people for possible contact. Volunteers can also be identified by looking at the back of the members' enrollment cards.

Members discussed the amount of the dues that members pay to join 4-H. It was noted that members have been charged \$2.50 for many years. Of that money, \$1 goes directly to the State 4-H Office for state dues. Discussion took place about the advantages and disadvantages to raising the dues. After a brief discussion, members agreed that the St. Martin Parish 4-H dues would be raised to \$5.00 per member. Leaders would be told that the most that they could add to that amount would be \$2.50. This means that the most a member could be charged to join 4-H would be \$7.50. (If clubs need more money in their treasury, a list of suggested fundraising activities could be provided.)

It was also decided that there would be a parish-wide deadline for turning in enrollment cards. Teachers would be told that they must accept members until the stated deadline. This is an effort to make the program as uniform as possible throughout the parish.

Other recommendations for our parish program included:

- Setting a separate Project Book & Record Book deadline for livestock exhibitors (one week after the regular deadline)
- Members turning in their books after the deadline would not be eligible to win for Outstanding Record Books
- Using a different system to calculate points for Achievement Day trophies. To make it more fair for smaller clubs, figure out the “average points per club member” (It was brought to the council’s attention that this is the way that it used to be figured out.)
- Recognize the Outstanding Record Book winners again at Honor’s Night – put names in program
- Have more signs for Achievement Day so that members and judges know where to go

Discussion took place about the time and date for the next 4-H ALC Meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for October 18, 2007 at 6 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.