

August 24, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Amy Hein. Claire Donaldson and Noah Miller lead the pledges.

Roll Call: Present were: Jim Nichols, Vickie Nichols, Amanda Woodworth, Justine Gatlin, Linda Dillon Elyse Ivak, Conner Hayden, Matt Hayden, Maggie Server, Rachel Bolt, Shelby Bolt, Amy Hein, Claire Donaldson, Kristen Donaldson, Rebeka Lamb, Noah Miller, Anna Neal, Stephanie Neal, Colton Neal, Lin Wozniewski, Ike Essary, Lisa Bubola, Christi Long, Nicole Kasparian, Jackie Gerner, Connie Brittingham, Pattie Nichols, Lynette DuBord, Deanne Nagel, Austin McNeill, Julie Jones, and Jennifer Haynes.

There was no secretaries Report because the meeting was just a fair debrief.

Treasurer's Report The County Committee is showing a net income of \$3,063.05. Amy Hein stated that because of the large number of 10 Year members this year, the original \$300 did not cover their gifts. Connie Brittingham moved to pay the additional \$90 for the cups for the 10 Year members. Nicole Kasperian seconded. Motion passed.

Amy Hein thanked Pepsi for the \$344 from Pepsi for the Junior Leaders for Pepsi Day. Unfortunately no Junior Leaders were available to help that day, but better coordination was promised for next year.

Amy Hein announced that Lake County 4-H collected 2820 lbs of food for the Stock the Trailer project. It is not believed that we were in the top 3 counties, but we are expecting a \$500 contribution from Farm Credit for participating. The food has already been distributed. A carload went to Project Love, a carload went to Rosy Morrow at Eagle Creek Food pantry. And the bulk of it went to the Northwest Indiana Food Bank, which supplies all of the other food banks in Lake County. When contacted, the food banks were unable to handle large donations of food. Amy also thanked Pepsi for donating a large amount of juice to the Stock the Trailer drive. Amy announced that she is looking for someone to take over the Stock the Trailer project for next year.

It was announced that the Endowment Fund had interest of \$2377.48 for the year. Julie Jones spoke in favor of leaving the interest in the fund to grow the fund with the idea that eventually we would be able to depend on the interest from the endowment fund for the money to pay for the trips and awards and not have to depend on the geranium sales and donations every year.

Julie also announced a series of volunteer development meetings to be held at the Purdue Extension from 6:30-8. These include Monday October 23rd on welcoming and keeping new 4-H families & will feature door prizes. Tuesday December 5th on a 4-H Club Leader Refresher Course, Tuesday January 16th on Making Club Meetings Matter, Tuesday February 20th on Positive Youth Development. And Tuesday March 19th on Raising and Handling Funds

Shelby Bolt was introduced as an Indiana State Dairy Ambassador. She is one of 9 such Ambassadors for the State of Indiana and the only one from the northern half of the state. She was requesting \$200 to pay for trip expenses as part of the ambassadorship. The ambassadors will be going on a number of trips, including one to Canada. Matt Hayden moved to sponsor the trip. Nicole Kasparian seconded. Motion passed.

Anyone interested in serving as a County Committee member for a 3 year term was asked to contact Julie Ziese. With the new term limits, empty county committee seats, and the expanded County Committee mandated by the new by-laws, we need people to fill these seats.

Correspondence: County Committee received a pile of thank you notes from 4-H members for sponsorships.

The floor was then opened for comment for the Fair Debrief.

Julie Ziese felt the auction went well and the fair was a success.

Jackie Gerner thought the auction went well and the food was great. She also felt having the food tent away from some of the barns caused some confusion.

Amy loved the new layout of the 4-H building. She liked the way projects were grouped so you could find displays when you wanted to see something. She indicated that there was a problem with the food this past year when food was supposed to last for the rest of the week and was wasted/chugged/taken for private use at the beginning of the week, leaving leaders scrambling at the end of the week. She indicated that an industrial refrigerator that could be locked up would be rented for next year.

Lin Wozniewski loved the new STEM Center

Colton Neal liked the Fair in general. Amy Hein thanked him for all of his help with the Stock the Trailer.

Noah Miller liked the new Clover grams.

Claire Donaldson also liked the Clover grams.

Anna Neal liked the Fair in general.

Kristine Donaldson spent a great deal of the fair running. She liked the hustle and bustle of the fair. She liked the Food Tent. She commented that Lin Wozniewski never looked so happy and was like a kid at Christmas in the STEM Center.

Stephanie Neal liked getting together and liked the new grouping of the animals so that all of the 4-H animal kids were together.

Linda Dillon was happy with the new arrangement of the building. She got nothing but compliments on how nice it looked. She talked to a number of the Lake County Agricultural Society Board Members about plans for the building and help in upgrading the shelving used in the building and other improvement projects. She stated that she wanted to flip the STEM Center and Club Corner for next year.

Rebeka Lamb that it was a nice 1st year as a General Building Superintendent and that she learned a lot. She liked the way the animals had been regrouped.

Lisa Bubala indicated that she had nothing to add. She thought everyone did an amazing job.

Justine Gatlin thought it was very nice that we had cooler weather for the fair.

Lynette DuBord said “ditto to the food, building and having the animals together. She wants lots of clubs to plan on coming out for the 4-H Kickoff on October 8th. She would like them to bring their Club Corner posters to advertise their clubs. She would like lots of current 4-H members on hand to mingle with perspective new members. She would like the clubs to bring plenty of water for everyone. Lynette also reminded everyone that Spaghetti Tickets need to be purchased by September 1st. They are working on a carry-out option.

Austin McNeil thought everything went well

Amanda Woodworth thought everything went great. She indicated that the rabbits went well but expressed a desire for more food options for next year. She also requested a different check in day for the rabbits. She indicated that it was important for the rabbits to be checked in right before the rabbit show. She was open for discussing options of making that happen, but felt this years rabbit check in with all of the other animal check-ins was a bit hectic.

Nicole Kasperian thought everything went great. There were a few hiccups, but nothing disastrous. She reported that there were 155 lots sold to 100 buyers. She indicated there were approximately 30 new buyers. She further stated that there were only 18 buyers whose numbers were below 100 and that they were considering purging some of the old buyers who had not purchased in a while. Others indicated that some people enjoyed getting the flyers. She reported that approximately \$183,000 was taken in and that checks paid out amounted to approximately \$171,000.

Deanne Nagel had mixed feelings about not being there every day. She liked not having to be there that much. She was only at the Fair 2 days, but admitted she sort of missed it. She was glad everything went well

Connie Brittingham thought the whole fair was good. She liked the change in where the animals were housed.

Pattie Nichols thought everything went well. She particularly liked the hopscotch that was done on the pavement outside of the barn. She said that many children and adults started into the barn only to go back out and do the hopscotch before coming in to look at the animals.

Jim Nichols missed being at the fair all of the time

Ike Essary liked the fair. He said he heard no complaints, which was surprising considering how many changes were instituted this year. It was the most changes he could ever remember being done in one year.

Amy Hein indicated that she had heard that the goat people needed more light in the barn for the goats and was going to request that. She also said that someone had asked if the YQCA could be done during the fair. There was no immediate answer available, but Jennifer indicated that she would look into the question. Amy also indicated that there were plans for pens set aside for 4-H promotional material similar to what is done in the 4-H building as there was a call for more promotional material in the barns.

Vickie Nichol indicated she missed sharing in everyone’s lives as she had been able to do in the past.

Elyse Ivak accepted Amy Hein’s thank you to Pepsi for providing so much of the water to the food tent and the Barn Battle. Amy Hein also indicated that 4-H got a deal on the ice for the auction and food tent. The entire ice bill for the fair was only \$136.

Marsha Essary mostly kept Ike in check.

Christy Long’s only complaint was the weather, which made the horse arena a mud pit. She was very grateful to the 4-H members and their parents for the cooperation in moving the horse show. Everyone was very cooperative.

Matt Hayden felt the attendance was down but thought everything went well. He liked how much help he received to help set-up the barns. He especially thanked Colton Neal for his help. He also announced that the Fair Board was forming a Junior Fair Board to assist with planning the Fair. He encouraged anyone between 18-35 to sign up. He indicated Colton Neal had already signed up.

Maggie Server said Supreme Showmanship went well, but indicated that some changes were being contemplated.

Conner Hayden asked about all of the changes being talked about in the building. He had not had time to make it up the hill. He was shown some Clover grams.

Shelby Bolt thought everything went well

Rachel Bolt liked the changes in the animals. She indicated she saw lots of new friendships being made that would not have been made if the animals had not been put together.

Julie Jones thought it was a great fair. She acknowledged that there were lots of changes and was glad that they were all so well received. She indicated that they had gotten a super response to the sponsorship banners with people wanting to know how to get their names on the sponsor list. Julie thought the building looked great and indicated that we had about 30 more projects in the building over last year. She said that almost 400 Clover grams were turned in and all were appropriate comments. She thanked Linda Dillon for her efforts in getting people to fill out Clover grams. Julie said that she could tell that some Clover grams came in from young children and that she saw lots of non-4H adults filling out Clover grams over the course of the week. People were generally very interested in doing it. Julie also indicated that she had heard from the parents that they liked the medallions because they were easier to move and store.

Jennifer Govan thought the fair went very well, but very long. She enjoyed working with the kids and parents. Her report showed that the animal exhibits were up by 300 animals/exhibits.

Amy Hein thanked the Junior Leaders and Ambassadors who showed up to help hand out ribbons at the open shows as well as all of the 4-H shows. Their help was much appreciated and helped to showcase 4-H.

Amy also announced that Connie Brittingham was retiring from being the poultry superintendent. She will be sorely missed.

Nicole Kasperian wanted to thank Amy Hein for all of her work in making sure the Fair went so well.

Lynette DuBord also wanted to thank all of those who helped make the Fair a success

Amy Hein announced that all rule changes need to be in by September 1st. There will be a rule change committee meeting on September 21st at 6:00 at the Extension Office.

The next County Committee meeting is scheduled for September 28th at 7:00 at the Extension Office. It is slated to be the election of superintendents, but the new rules changes may force this to be put off until the following meeting. More information on this will be forthcoming on this.

Colton Neal made a motion to adjourn: It was seconded by Linda Dillon. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05

Respectfully submitted,

Lin Wozniowski