

**Milwaukee County 4H Leaders Association, Inc**  
**Board Meeting**  
**September 25, 2008**

**Present:** David Running, Char Ehlert, Mary Thiry, Laura Barker, Christine Mann, Mark Watkins Jr., Mark Watkins Sr., Jason Dobbs.

Jason Dobbs, president, called the meeting to order at 6:50.

Pledges were recited.

Laura Barker volunteered to act as secretary for this meeting and take minutes, because Laura Brushaber is out ill.

Mary Thiry introduced herself as a representative of Eloisa Gomez at this meeting and future board meetings until a permanent replacement can be found. Angela Houk left her position as the county agent to work at a university with students with special needs.

Michelle Gonzalez, from Washington County 4H, will begin working half-time on October 1<sup>st</sup> until a new agent is hired.

**Secretary's report:** July report accepted.

**Treasurer's report:** Outstanding liabilities for camp, which is over budget. Budgeted amount \$800, actual amount \$889.50. Also over budget was a purchase of award ribbons, which was \$427.35. Mary Thiry will put together a ribbon inventory for the next meeting so we can see exactly what was purchased.

Char Ehlert made a motion to pay \$491.25 in fair premiums. Second by Mark Watkins Jr. The motion passed.

**Old Business:** Waukesha County fair was discussed, and Mary Thiry said that she would put together a full report with the numbers for the October meeting. The overall feeling is that the fair was a success.

David Running explained to us that a separate fair board for Milwaukee County needs to be established and within that board a Junior Fair board can function on behalf of the 4H youth. Members of the Leaders Association can be on that board also, but it must be a separate entity that establishes their own by-laws, etc. There are already some people beginning to form this board, and the Leaders Assoc. needs to be informed of their meeting dates and times so that we can communicate our needs to them.

## **New Business:**

Eddie Benoit asked for help in setting up the 4H displays for the Harvest Fair 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. He will be at State Fair Park at 10:00am on Friday.

The premium checks will be handed out to the 4H members at 1:00 on Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

There was a news article about the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Milwaukee County 4H in the September 23<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel metro section.

The 4H calendar will be put together by Mary Thiry, Michelle Gonzalez, and Tina Mann. The camp dates need to be requested and set A.S.A.P. The calendar will be published in October.

Mark Sr. will continue to plan the Exploring 4H Saturday this year. October's meeting will be making recycled bird houses, and in November Mary Thiry will present a Fun with Science activity. There will be no Exploring 4H Saturday in December because the Art Camp East is already planned for that date.

Mark Watkins Jr. made a motion to budget \$500.00 for fairs, revues, and events for the coming year, outside of county fair. Second by Laura Barker. The motion passed.

The annual meeting will be held in November, and Jason Dobbs suggested making it an awards dinner/event to attract new board members. Jason, Tina, and Mark Jr. will work on putting together this event, and come to the October meeting with some firm ideas and costs. Jason wishes to resign the board soon in order to put his focus on starting a new 4H club.

Jason is on the board for YLC (youth leadership council) which is having its annual meeting and luncheon on October 18<sup>th</sup> in Wausau. He is not able to attend that meeting, and asked that an adult and a youth delegate age 14 or older attend as representatives of Milwaukee County. There is already \$100 budgeted to help cover some of the costs of this event. Laura Barker volunteered to go with her daughter Rachel.

The 4H in action newsletter had an error in mentioning the Pick & Save donations that are received. The error is that the money donated is actually going to the UW-extension when it should be going to the Leader's Association. Mary Thiry will look into that problem and report back in October.

David Running said that he knows of a person in the Baird investment company who might be able to handle the Leader's Association funds and review our portfolio to give advice as to how to best invest our funds. This person might possibly do this service for us without a fee. David will set-up a meeting with this man and Mark Watkins Sr. to discuss our options.

***Added via email after the meeting:** There are several clubs who need to have their member's record books evaluated for the 2007-2008 4H year. Mary Thiry will add that to the calendar. We will also need to have a committee who is willing to evaluate these books and run some Member Evaluation interviews.*

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30.