

MILWAUKEE COUNTY 4-H LEADERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
ANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 24, 2009

PRESENT: Mark Watkins, Sr., Mark Watkins, Jr., Ellen Deall, Laura Ann Deall, Carol Sims, Sue Rolison, Eddie Benoit, Sharon Eberhardt, Tina Mann, Therese Peterson, Michelle Gonzalez, Laura Jeske, Laura Brushaber.

The meeting was called to order at noon by president, Mark Watkins, Jr. and pledges were recited.

Mark Jr. thanked leaders and parents for their help to the 4-H program this past year.

Mark Jr. reviewed the highlights of the past 4-H year including the summer cookout, Waukesha fair, Harvest Fair, having 10 Milwaukee projects exhibited at the State Fair, the exploring 4-H Saturday programs and the newly started Thursday program. He also mentioned that there were several articles about Milwaukee County 4-H in local newspapers this past year. Michelle's being hired as a permanent employee of the Extension office this year and the effort between the Leaders Association and UWEX staff to improve the working relationship were also improvements made this past year. A focus of the office staff and Leaders Association has been to complete all necessary paperwork between us. A long time wish was fulfilled this past year when the resource room was set up and resources are now readily available for all leaders and members to use. The last highlight Mark mentioned was the development of the STEM program.

Premium checks were handed out to the three youth members in attendance and the remaining checks were given to club leaders present to be handed out to members from their clubs not present today.

Michelle talked about the STEM program and certificate program to be implemented this year. She also talked about the training program for leaders, parents, and older youth with the focus on the areas of digital photography, robotics, and exploring 4-H STEM.

Tina Mann received the 'Alumni of the Year' award. Char Ehlert received the 'Leader of the Year' award. Grant Cromby of Horse & Carriage received the 'Friend of 4-H' award. The extension office handed out a new award this year - it was the '4-H Family of the Year' award and it was given to the Coons family.

Mark Jr. went over the goals for 2009 - 2010. These include: having at least one successful fund raiser, having all 4-H clubs/groups chartered, working on the new by-laws especially as far as involving more clubs and groups, more diversity and representation of minorities, after school groups, and new areas to start 4-H, and day camp development for the summer of 2010.

Ed Benoit asked about the audit of the treasurer's books. Mark Watkins, Sr. said that there was an audit completed last year and that this year's audit will be conducted within the next six weeks or so. Ed mentioned the external audit that is to be conducted periodically and should probably be due this year. Sharon Eberhardt mentioned that the audit cost by a professional auditing firm is approximately \$3000

and so has not been done because of this high cost and that the members of the Leaders Association Board of Directors did not feel it was necessary.

The 4-H calendar for 2009 and first part of 2010 was distributed and reviewed by Tina Mann. She also gave a quick summary about record books and M.E.'s.

Elections – Laura Brushaber had received nominations of Sue Rolison, Mark Watkins, Sr., and Mark Watkins, Jr. for the terms on the board of directors. Ed Benoit was nominated, but declined. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Sharon moved to accept the slate of directors as nominated. Ed seconded the motion. All in favor.

Ed said that he would like to attend the Art Lab for the video production session, but would like to have a youth also attend. Michelle said that the deadline was extended until November 13th for Milwaukee County members and leaders. She will be putting an article in the next 4-H newsletter.

Ed moved to adjourn the meeting. Carol seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Brushaber, Secretary