

4-H Horse & Pony Advisory Committee

Attendees: Becky Teeters, Diana Hart, Sherrie Martin, Kim White, Julie Botkin, Emma Dunbar, Buffy Prater, Richard Daffron, Shellie Johnson, Cindy Baker, Patty Dow.
Absent due to other duties, Rena Sheldon and Linda Rainier; absent due to illness, Ginny Bailey and Janelle Sommerville.

Becky called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Morgan County Public Library. She handed out minutes from the Jan. 15th meeting, 2008 calendars (Feb. – July) with Horse & Pony events noted, Educator's Report February 5, 2008 from Rena Sheldon, Morgan County 4-H Livestock Horse & Pony Advisory Committee Practices & Procedures to be used as a starting point for discussion, and an agenda for the meeting.

Becky asked that everyone review the minutes for corrections. Diana moved and Buffy seconded a motion to approve the minutes then Kim stated that her statement concerning the advisory Committee functions and duties was not in the minutes. Kim had said the authority to enforce 4-H rules for H&P comes from the blue book (Morgan County 2007 4-H Handbook) and had referenced rule 7 of the 4-H Horse & Pony section of the Morgan County 4-H Handbook which contained, "All questions will be resolved by the Horse & Pony Advisory Committee members and their decision will be final." Kim stated that rule 7 on page 71 of the 2008 Handbook stated the same thing. A lengthy discussion followed concerning past problems with class entries, policy being in place and being followed, checks and balances, accountability, and who had final authority to make decisions. Patty suggested that the committee take care of approving the minutes and postpone the discussion until they reached the point in the agenda covering Practices and Procedures. Sherrie moved to accept the corrected minutes. Buffy seconded the motion that was approved.

The Advisory Committee discussed changes to the fair dates set during the last meeting. Many things were taken into consideration. Kim moved to have the Western Show July 12th at 9:00 a.m., Contesting on the 19th at 4:00 p.m. with the Minis at 10:00 a.m., and the English Show on July 20th at 9:00 a.m. Diana seconded the motion that passed.

Becky asked if the group could come up with 2-3 dates for the 4-H Open Contesting Show so that when she asked to use the fair grounds and a date was not available she would have alternatives. A discussion followed with members suggesting dates in both May and June. Cindy felt that May 31st would give the kids practice time before the area contest. Diana thought it was a chance to make some money and thought the fair grounds might be available then. The contesting wouldn't cost any money they just need a person to sit and time contestants and watch for penalties. There was more discussion about concessions, specific foods to be served, entry fees, and officiates. Cindy volunteered to help with food at the 4-H Open Contesting Show. Sherrie and Richard agreed to be on the Contesting Show food committee with Cindy. Richard moved to hold the contest May 31st at 4:00 p.m. Cindy seconded the motion that passed. Diana will check the fair grounds for availability. Diana said Judy Rumbaugh has 3-4 totes with leftovers. She asked that the committee make a list of what we have and keep notes on how much is made. Taco meat and coney sauce can be made ahead of time and frozen.

Becky asked for the names of horse kickers that will be posted at the fair grounds on the building and kept in the extension office. A discussion followed with members bringing up horses who have kicked in the past, horses with nasty attitudes and the owners/parents have voluntarily put red bows in their tails when they have never kicked, Safety & Ring

Manners workshops to inform the parents and kids, red bow discussion in a newsletter to the parents, red ribbons encouraged in mini even if the horse didn't kick. Shellie offered Maximus Molly Brown and Kim put Moon and Casey on the red bow list.

Kim said someone had gotten her name and called her wanting to come to our area hippology qualifier. She told the person we didn't have one and called Betty Kenworthy at the office about the call.

Becky covered the dates of interest: Area VI Qualifier HB/H Mar. 8, State Competition Mar. 28-29, Horse Judging Area VI Apr. 19, State Competition May 3, Hoosier Horse Fair April 4-6, and State Fair Horse & Pony Dates Aug. 1-10. She reminded everyone that this year the 3rd graders are allowed to participate at the State Fair.

Becky asked if anyone had asked parents about being involved in committees. Kim said she hadn't had time at her last meeting but she was getting ready to put parent committees together for her club and she still has the list Becky handed out at the last advisory meeting.

Becky asked if everyone had filled out a volunteer behavior sheet and handed it in to the Extension Office. Julie responded that she hadn't and Cindy wasn't sure if she had. Kim said you are suppose to have one anytime you drive a 4-Her or have contact with 4-H youth. Becky said most of what is on the form is common sense and courtesy and she read a few items off the form. Diana and Becky had forms which they gave to Cindy and Julie. The group wasn't sure if they were the right forms. Becky said you also have to tell what capacity in which the person will be working with 4-H.

During the discussion on Practices and Procedures Kim asked if the "Others may be deemed necessary..." section meant the person/s had voting status or just input. Becky said according to what Rena gave out (the Educator's Report February 5, 2008) as long as the person was not appointed as an officer they had voting rights. Becky said by-laws are harder to amend and that Practices and Procedures would be easier to amend. Patty told the group that after receiving a copy of the by-laws at the last meeting she went home thinking she knew of no other committee under the council that had by-laws. She had called Ronnie Burnett, president of the Extension Board, to ask if he knew of any committee with by-laws. Patty had not told Becky that she had talked with Ronnie until after the fact. Ron told Patty the Extension Advisory Board was covered by by-laws. Patty had told him about the new Advisory Committee and he had asked if it needed to be as large a committee as it was. She had explained that Becky wanted to involve as many parents as she could to try to get everyone working together. Patty had asked if Practices and Procedures would be sufficient to operate by since the Livestock Committee used Practices and Procedures and operated under the 4-H Council by-laws. He said he didn't see a problem with that as long as Purdue policy was followed. Patty said that according to the Purdue guidelines that we follow, the Livestock Committee and 4-H Council look at guidelines and rules once a year and amend them by December 31st for the following year. We don't change them every meeting or at will. Patty asked if they wanted to discuss each section as Becky read it. Becky said she would go over things and asked that if anyone had a question or didn't agree to interrupt her as needed. Kim asked who reviews the committee members. Patty said Rena does and explained that generally if a person wished to remain on a committee and hadn't done anything outside of or against Purdue 4-H policy there wasn't a problem with them remaining. Buffy asked if a member wishing to relinquish their position should do it in writing. Patty responded yes that should be included and they also should write the effective date of their leaving the

committee since we had already experienced problems in that area when Bill Rumbaugh relinquished his position as superintendent.

Kim questioned the use of recommend when questions arose and there wasn't time to take something to the Livestock Committee for a final decision. She said the Handbook says the committee has the final decision. Diana stated that the "advisory committee has the final decision" was to be removed in 2008 from the rulebook. There was much discussion on getting the Advisory Committee together on short notice, previous leadership, allowing members to change classes if they are signed up incorrectly, leaders going over forms before they're taken to the Extension Office, Advisory Committee making recommendations, what decisions would make it to the Livestock Committee, and walk trot class rules such as the bit used and the age of a horse. Cindy felt as a group we can all work on things like this. Sherrie said the purpose of the superintendent is to make decisions and we should have faith in the person in charge. More discussion followed about checks and balances, going to the Livestock Committee to file a grievance if rules weren't followed, parents asking about future problems being handled as they were in the past, parent trust issues, leadership problems, supporting current leadership, extended Advisory Committee, opinions being taken into consideration, equal representation for both clubs, and working out differences. Patty asked if they could get the Practices and Procedures completed and then once approved take them to their membership to show them that they were working together to resolve problems. Concerning special problems which arise, the group agreed to add to the Practices and Procedures, "Any question or problem which may arise can be discussed in a special called meeting of the Advisory Committee and the majority decision will be recommended to the superintendent". Patty asked if they needed a special committee to review entry forms. Kim said they should err in the favor of the kids and Cindy said no they didn't need a committee because there weren't that many issues with entries. Diana said she had caught a lot of them while putting the show bill together and had called the kids to verify the correct entry.

Becky said she had decided not to specify actual meeting dates in the Practices and Procedures but thought they should meet at least 4 times a year. Buffy moved to accept the Practices and Procedures as changed. Sherrie seconded the motion that passed.

Concerning Rena's note on the secretary, Buffy moved to have Ginny as an at large member with voting rights and to elect her secretary. Richard seconded the motion that passed.

Diana said that we can't have the 4-H building for May 14th but they could use the show arena or Horse and Pony arena for the Safety & Ring Manners Workshop. Becky asked for a list of clinicians from each member present. Buffy, Cindy, and Shellie gave names either in writing or verbally. Kim apologized that she had no clinicians.

Becky said she knew it was asking a lot but could everyone within the next week please send her questions which could be put on a survey to send out with the letter containing Horse & Pony dates. She wanted to know from the 4-Hers and parents things they liked about last year and what they wanted out of the program. She explained that the questions had to be presented to the Extension Office to go through the Purdue cycle before they could be sent out.

Diana asked if the group wanted trophies for 1st place. The group ~~Kim and Emma~~ said yes. Diana explained that there would be a crunch trying to get trophies in since the show

dates had been moved up. Shellie said she had sponsored \$140 worth of trophies and had received no thank you cards. Her parents had been sponsors and also had received no thank you. Cindy said it is hard to supervise the kids picking up trophies. Diana said they have a number on the card so they can match it to a trophy so that when a 4-Her brings the thank you back, they match it to the trophy and give them the trophy. She said they will post a list of trophy donors on the side of the Horse & Pony building and at the stalls. Becky said they are going to try to announce trophy sponsors during the classes. Diana explained that when she receives trophy money on the day of the shows it is hard to get thank you cards addressed since she has to do it by hand at that point. Jan Walters in the Extension Office requires that trophy donor names and addresses be turned into her by July 1st in order to produce labels.

Becky said Signe Nicholson had offered to do a workshop. Kim felt that most of the kids had already done the workshop and it was phenomenal but maybe they should wait a couple of years for new kids to do another one. Becky said Julie (who had to leave) had mentioned a problem with a clinician asking a parent to leave the arena. The clinician had not been aware that the parent was trying to help her son who was having issues. Becky said in such a case as that it was okay to enter the arena. They just didn't want parents or other people trying to instruct or teach while a clinician was instructing.

Becky asked about advertising their open shows. The cost of an ad had been \$150-\$175 in the past and only 4 kids out of county came. She wanted to know about giving the information to Rena instead. Kim said give the information to Rena and she can send it to other extension educators. Shellie suggested posting the information online on moderator boards. Buffy suggested putting the information out at horse fair booths. Shellie suggested meeting in March to put the show bills together. Diana asked if Tuesdays were a good day for meetings and all agreed. Diana will pull the 2005 show bill to use as a starting point. She also said she liked the idea of a one fee for all day show, such as \$20 for one she had been to. Becky said she would contact everyone with the March meeting date and asked Shellie if she would submit all the Horse Bowl and Hippology information that is due March 10th. Shellie said she would. Kim said they would collect the fees from the kids and have the checks made out to the Horse & Pony then Diana could write one check for all of them. Diana said she would do that and write a letter to go along with the check. Becky told Kim to let her know when they needed the buzzers to practice.

As the meeting adjourned, Kim said the tack auction has been rescheduled for March 8 at 6:00 p.m. The man bringing the tack takes care of everything. Shellie said some very good buys could be made.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Dow
2/5/08

Revised by Ginny Bailey
02/22/08