

LEWIS AND CLARK 4-H FOUNDATION ANNUAL MEETING
October 29, 2020, Extension Office, 5:30 p.m.

In attendance: Janet Cerovski, Lisa DeWitt, Michelle Eckhart, Henley Sexton, Josh McKay, Megan Goroski, Catherine McNeil, Claire Downing, Erin Weisgruber, Lindsay Volpe, Kara Tangedal

Attendance Virtually: Karyn Hamilton, Bev and James and Zoe Schneider

The meeting was called to order by Foundation President, Josh McKay.

Janet Cerovski moved that the minutes be approved as written. This was seconded by Claire Downing, and approved unanimously.

AMBASSADORS PRESENTATION: Claire Downing and Megan Goroski addressed the Foundation Board with a description of their Leaders in Equity Ambassador Project. This fall, Megan, Claire and Cade attended the virtual (due to Covid) True Leaders in Equity Institute. This institute is attempting to get leaders in all states; there are currently 16 delegations across the us. Claire, Megan, and Cade were tasked with coming up with project to make state's 4-H program more equitable and support the local community. They chose to look at foster care system since Montana has second highest rate of foster care in U.S. Their project is to compile 500 "packs" for foster children, focusing on younger kids since 50% are 5 are younger. The backpacks will contain health and toiletry supplies, blankets, crayons, and basic need supplies, as well as information about 4-H, promoting the benefits of the program. They will connect with local Law Enforcement to coordinate distribution of the backpacks. To date, Rotary and Elks have contributed to this project, and they are involving clubs at the local level with a "Tie Blanket Battle." Their goal is to have the backpacks prepared for distribution by the beginning of May 2021. DPHHS has agreed to let the backpacks be stored in their storage area. Claire, Megan, and Cade requested \$500 from the L&C Foundation to support this project. Lisa DeWitt moved to give \$500 to support this, and Catherine seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. Any funds received in support of this project will be run through the Foundation account, to ensure transparency and appropriate use.

PROJECT SPONSORSHIPS: Kara Tangedal reminded the Foundation that we do not have the McDonald's livestock sponsorship any more. The Schatz family used to also give a "hard luck" sponsorship, which has been discontinued. That leaves only two project sponsorship awards of \$300 each. Kara received three applications for these project sponsorships; the Schatz family chose 2, leaving one outstanding. Kara asked if the Foundation would be interested in covering the one outstanding sponsorship request, particularly in light of the times and of the recent loss of other sponsorship money. Catherine McNeil noted concerns about setting a precedent. Janet Cerovski state that she would like to see the Foundation cover the project sponsorship this one time, since sponsorships are down and this is a "weird" year. Janet Cerovski moved that the Foundation provide a project sponsorship in the amount of \$300 for the one outstanding application. Claire Downing seconded this motion, which was unanimously approved. Kara Tangedal suggested that this be a topic for the Foundation to discuss, and to look at setting guidelines for applications to improve equity.

FOUNDATION FINANCIAL REPORT: Catherine McNeil presented the financial report for the Foundation. Net income was \$2377.73 for the whole last year. For not having a fundraiser other than the letter, that

is pretty good. The balance of the managed investment account is \$113,152.19, down from last year due to decreases in the market.

The balance in the checking account is \$50,150.31.

Lisa DeWitt moved and Michelle Eckhart seconded that the financial report be accepted as presented. This was approved unanimously.

COUNCIL BUDGET REPORT: Council Treasurer, Erin Weisgruber, presented the Council's proposed 2020-2021 budget. As with everything, council had a weird year in 2019-2020. As spring rolled around, many events just did not happen (camp, congress, etc). The Council and superintendents jointly prepared the budget proposal for 2020-2021, with a total request for \$34,479. This is the total estimated cost for the coming year and does not take into account the approximate \$6,000 in the Council checking account. Discussion ensued regarding a request for clarification on several of the line items, as well as anticipations on events taking place based on Covid restrictions. Discussion also included the anticipated difficulty of fundraisers due to Covid, and the need to ensure that ALL 4-H fundraisers are pre-approved and coordinated.

Catherine McNeil noted that last year, Foundation gave half of the amount requested (\$15,000 of the \$30,000 requested). Lisa DeWitt moved that the funding request be distributed in two installments: \$15,000 now, and then additional amounts can be requested as needed by Council. Catherine McNeil seconded this motion, which passed unanimously.

REPORT ON PREVIOUS YEAR: Josh provided a verbal summary on the activities of the 4-H Program over the previous year, including fundraising, dealing with Covid, grants to youth, scholarships, and assisting ambassador projects.

NOMINATION OF DIRECTORS:

Nomination of individuals to fill open director's positions were as follows:

4-H volunteer (3 open positions) – Lindsay Volpe, Bev Schneider, Sean Maharg

Community member (2 open positions) – Vicky Bohlman

Youth (2 open positions) – Henley Sexton, Zoe Schneider

All nominations were approved unanimously. One community member position remains unfilled.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2020-2021

Joe Munis was nominated to be president by Catherine McNeil, the nomination was seconded by Janet Cerovski, and approved unanimously. Joe Munis will take the position previously held by Josh McKay.

Karyn Hamilton was nominated to continue as vice president by Janet Cerovski, the nomination was seconded by Catherine McNeil, and approved unanimously. Karyn Hamilton remains in the position she held the previous year.

Lisa DeWitt was nominated to be secretary by Catherine McNeil, the nomination was seconded by Michelle Eckhart, and approved unanimously. Lisa DeWitt will take the position previously held by Tiffany Clipper.

Janet Cerovski was nominated to be treasurer by Lisa DeWitt, the nomination was seconded by Karyn Hamilton, and approved unanimously. Janet Cerovski takes the position previously held by Catherine McNeil.

The meeting was then adjourned. The next meeting is next Wednesday, November 4, at 5:30 at the Extension Office.

Lisa DeWitt

4-H Foundation Secretary