

Youth Council update: Craft day happened this past weekend and the kids all reported that they had a lot of fun. The fair fundraisers were both approved and sign up sheets are available at this meeting for both the coffee cart and the pine shred sales. For the coffee cart it will be 4 hour shifts from 9-1, 1-5 and 5-9. The Youth Council will also be having a small animal clinic right after tagging. Time is still to be determined, but it will most likely start around 330. The small animal clinic will focus on dogs, pigs and fiber animals. For more information or if you want to help with the clinic please contact Cindy Bohm. Also if you have any suggestions or ideas on what the youth council should do for workshops or events please contact Cindy Bohm by email at scrappincindy@yahoo.com

Horse committee: State show for lights is the weekend before fair so they will be going in Sunday evening right after their shows and leave Wednesday night or Thursday morning. Drafts and minis will come in after that. The state mini show is the Sunday that fair ends so some of the horses will need to be transported out early. The fair will need to be notified before any of the special circumstances happen (some of the circumstances they already know about!). Any members who need information about anything to do with horses can attend the horse council meetings.

Question for fair about horses: The 4-H youth wanted to know if the judges that were there this year could be switched each year to ensure that they aren't judging the same horses. The fair stated that the judges have not yet been hired and they will take this idea into consideration.

Fair book: The fair liaisons stated that the fair book will be released on May 1st. There is a chance it could be released earlier than this date, but plan on May 1st.

Exploration days: There is a change in one exploration day policy. Youth can now pick one roommate of their choice to stay with them for the 3 days in a room. If we end up in a 4 person room there will be 2 roommates the youth from the same age group as them if their room. Right now in the state of Michigan there are 1500 people registered so get your forms in if you haven't already. Orientation is mandatory and will be held in Clinton Township on the 5th of June from 6:30-8 and on the 6th of June at the Thompson Community Center from 630-8. We still need male chaperones and a male CCA. Any one interested must go through the volunteer selection process to become a screened volunteer.

Financial reporting changes: There were corrections that needed to be made in the financial manual given to leaders and treasurers of clubs. The first was that sales tax is not taxed on unprepared food. The second was that the commission from livestock auctions is not taxable. Make sure the people who have these books in your club get the new attachment sheet to make revisions in their manuals. Also make sure people receive the Macomb County version of the receipt form for clubs to give to donors when they give money or goods. You can still use the forms you have been using for receipts, but when those are finished with start using the new Macomb version provided. In the packet of things you received from the meeting there is a pink half sheet of paper. On that paper there is information about a webinar about the changes to the financial manual and to help with fundraising ideas.

******Another important detail about the financial manual is that we need to receive a minimum of two bank statements a year. Also a line was added on the annual financial statement that asks for the end balance on your statement for June.

Top 4-Her information: Making a change on attire for the winner. They would be allowed to wear formal attire if they so choose. There would still be only one winner and they can choose to be called a king or a

queen. The application is exactly the same as what it used to be when it was king or queen. Are there age groups? There are two age groups intermediate and senior.

County awards: There will be a workshop directly after fair for county awards. The deadline for county awards right now is November 15th, the date could change.

Teen Counselor Program: There are a list of things that teens could participate in as part of the program. It is a good way for kids to get community service hours. They also receive professional development in the program. The program will also take in 4-Hers that have graduated from high school.

AgInnovators: This is a classroom activity that teen leaders lead in local classrooms. On March 25th there is a mandatory training for teens that want to participate in this program. There is a great video online people can watch to see what the program is about.

Options for outreach events: 4-H celebration where existing 4-H members can take a friend to a celebration activity with a potluck meal. Another idea would be 4-H staff or clubs attending assemblies in schools. Another possible idea would be getting county staff to help out when clubs go to parks and recs events.

Some ideas for clubs to help out with: April 15th at TACOM is a military gardening event. If people are interested in attending they must contact Jeran Culina, 4-H military coordinator to get access to the base. Another event is the voyageur canoe on May 20th. Youngest age to attend this would be 8.

Workshop survey: We surveyed people at the leader meeting to see what workshops they would like to have come to Macomb county. Some options were field trips, science of chocolate, photography, vet science, fitness/yoga classes, pottery.

Fair:

Yellow sheets for cloverbuds need to be handed out to clubs. Mary has given out examples of what sheets should look like (those are in folders). Superintendents and club leaders need to hand out the information about judging. No big changes to the fair book. Still doing July 30th for the fair clean up day. Make sure to bring rakes this day.

Fair: Poultry Barn

Market poultry has already been ordered. On May 3rd goslings and ducklings will be ready bring a box for them (Jim will call when all of these are ready). Around the last week of May or early June the roaster chickens will be available (they will be female). The last week of June fryer chicks will be available (they will be male). On July 16th from 10-12 will be tagging day. Bring your best 5 of each species. Bring the best 3 to fair. Please come at any time to the poultry barn and ask if you can help if you have time (because all help is welcome). August 12th is poultry intake day. This will be when they are weighed. You can also bring fancy poultry in that day or on Sunday. Open class can also come that day.

Fancy poultry are not auctioned off they are judged in cages. If they are in showmanship they have to be able to pose.

Fair: Swine

All lost tag's must be brought to Matt's attention. Feed can only be added at 8 and 5. Inspection of pens will happen throughout the day. Feeding animals after the auction is extremely important. Just because it is not yours anymore does not mean you don't feed it. All other information will come on June 14th during the livestock committee meeting. Hogs from Dan Fox can be picked up on April 15th

Fair: Rabbits

Email about meat pens. A class was added and the pens are now smaller in society. If your animal is already tattooed from last year you do not have to bring it again.

Fair: other information

Culinary arts judge has stepped down so we will need someone to take over this position. All superintendents need to be at the June 14th meeting.