

**Lewis and Clark 4-H Foundation  
Meeting Minutes  
April 3, 2024; 5:30 p.m. at the Bill Hamilton Building**

In attendance: Karyn Hamilton, Joe Munis, Lisa DeWitt, Lexi Faust, Jana Gruber, Jeanne Caudle, Janet Cerovski, Danyel Bauer, Bill Sullivan, Molly LaChere, Luke Duran, Michelle Eckhart

Karyn Hamilton moved to approve the minutes of the March 2024 meeting as written. Michelle Eckhart seconded this motion, which passed unanimously.

(Trish – may need to be replaced)

Janet Cerovski presented the Treasurer's Report. The amount in the managed account is \$143,977.56 as of December 31, 2023. Janet reported that fundraising is going well, with \$11,876 in sponsorships received to date. Total income to date is \$16892. Recent expenses have included purchase of the gun safe, approximately \$4,000 for the Conex container for storage, \$75 to TechSoup for Quickbooks, and \$100 to Greater Helena Gives. Expenses for the year have totaled \$23,008. The ending balance of the local account is \$79,825.97, with \$56,658.61 in available funds.

Molly LaChere presented the Council Report. Recent Council discussions have been about workshops and workshop attendance, and fundraiser coordination. The May meeting will be in held Augusta.

A request for financial assistance for camp fees for three 4-H members was received by Extension Agent Emily Scruggs. Janet Cerovski moved that the Foundation pay \$400 for the 3 kids to attend camp. Danyel Bauer seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Discussion was held regarding development of a standard form for financial requests, and whether such a form could be made available online and available on both the County and the Foundation websites. Lexi Faust volunteered to look at the existing (old) form, update the form, and make it available online.

Extension Agent Emily Scruggs requested funding in the amount of approximately \$400 from the Foundation to sponsor cups for the seniors. Joe Munis asked if the Foundation might consider \$500 for spring awards so they can get decorations, and suggested that perhaps Council cover fall awards expenses, and the Foundation cover spring awards. Karyn Hamilton moved to provide Extension Agent with \$500 for Spring Awards. Molly LaChere seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Bill Sullivan, Council president, provided a report on the Fundraising meeting. The meeting discussion was around roles and responsibilities between Council and Foundation: Council, to maintain themselves on day to day, and Foundation for above and beyond.

In 2011 a financial cooperation committee was set up. Looking and left and right parameters for each. This committee has been inactive, and the fundraising committee would like to reinstitute the financial cooperation committee so that Council and the Foundation work together.

The vision is that this financial committee be open to everybody. Meet quarterly to continue the progress in fundraising and coordinating efforts. It was suggested that this committee include two

representatives from the Foundation, two members from the Council, and one youth and one member of the public. Bill committed to taking this recommendation to the Council for approval. The current “wish list” for funding was put together, and includes the following:

- Tools for the gardening project
- Robotics upgrade kits
- Maps for outdoor adventures projects
- Not increasing fees for indoor projects
- Awards ceremonies
- Rosettes and banners
- Volunteer gifts and volunteer awards
- Drinking fountain installation
- Resealing the floor
- New logo and shooting sports lines – vinyl on floor
- Money for ambassadors for fair activities
- Photography project needs
- Financial assistance fund.

Bill Sullivan and Lexi Faust recommended that the Foundation provide regular reports for the newsletter to better inform the 4-H community of what Foundation doing for them. Luke Duran volunteered to do an annual report at the end of the year that can be distributed. To better publicize and promote the Foundation publicly, it was suggested that Foundation could have a banner that could be put up at supported events to let all know what Foundation is supporting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on May 1, 2024, in the Bill Hamilton Building. The topics for the meeting will include review of the revised by-laws and review of scholarship applications.

Lisa DeWitt, Secretary