



Lincoln County Family and Community Education (fce) Clubs April, 2016, Council Meeting

The Lincoln County fce Council met at 9:30 a.m. April 12, 2016. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Bonnie Pond. Margaret Ellis gave the devotional; she read the poem, "I Said a Prayer for You Today". Lisa Ritter led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and Vicki Ellison led the group in reading the Club Creed aloud.

The minutes from the January, 2016, meeting were approved as mailed. Carolyn Slayton gave the treasurer's report stating that the council has \$4,168.37 in available funds.

Roll call was as follows: Boonshill fce Club – 1, Dellrose Hotrock fce Club – 4, Flintville fce Club – 2, McBurg fce Club – 2, Mimosa fce Club – 3 and Molino fce Club – 3, for a total of 15 fce members present at the council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Casserole Bake – Liz Mullins gave a brief report on the fce Clubs' 1st Annual Casserole Bake Sale. For a first-time event, the sale went quite well with a profit of \$736.

Sweetheart Cake Bake – Carolyn Slayton gave a report on the annual cake bake which was held Friday, February 12, with a profit of approximately \$1,500. There were 51 cakes judged in the competition and another 17 for which the clubs received the \$25 sponsorship fee as a donation without the cakes being judged. A motion was made and carried to add a Gluten-free category to the list of categories for next year. Lisa Ritter volunteered to organize the event again in 2017. She asked that members keep her informed if they plan to get their own sponsors or would like to donate a cake and need a sponsor.

NEW BUSINESS

Lincoln County fce Council Meeting Changes – There have recently been several comments and complaints about the length of the quarterly fce Council meetings. Because there are usually a dozen or more agenda items that need to be discussed and voted upon, most of the meetings have been taking 2 - 2½ hours to cover all of them. After opening the floor for discussion a motion was made and carried to **change the meeting dates from quarterly to bi-monthly**. Starting in June, 2016, the County Council meetings will be held on the **2nd Tuesday of the even months** of the year. **Following are the meetings dates for the Lincoln County fce Council for the remainder of 2016: June 14, August 9, October 11 and December 13.**

The Elk Valley Times News Articles – Lisa Ritter has been doing a fantastic job of making sure that articles and photos from different fce Club events and activities have been running in *The Elk Valley Times*. She would like for one member from each of the clubs to keep her informed about local fce Club happenings so that she can continue getting articles put in the paper. It's hoped that these articles will create greater exposure about fce events and activities and may encourage new people to get involved with the Lincoln County fce program.

fce Club Survey

Bonnie Pond went over some of the responses to the recent fce Club Survey. One of the things that members expressed an interest in is having county-wide workshops. If you are interested in attending or teaching a workshop, please contact Ethel Bonner at the Lincoln County Extension Office to let her know.

She has already scheduled workshops on DIY Watercolor Coffee Mugs for Friday, May 20, in the Ralph Hastings Building auditorium. She will be having a workshop at 10:00 a.m. and a second workshop at 4:30 p.m. It will cost \$6/person and she asks that anyone interested in attending, please call the office by May 18 to preregister so that she'll know how many people plan to attend and will have time to get all of the supplies and materials that she'll be needing for the workshops.

A second thing that the survey responses requested was for county-wide field trips/tours. Each club was asked to assign one member to serve on the County Council's Field Trip/Tour Committee. After your committee member has been selected, please forward her name to Bonnie Pond so that she can get the committee organized and scheduled to meet.

Another one of the survey questions was about possible recognition/incentives to club members to help encourage them to participate more in fce events and activities, as well as, fce Club membership recruitment. Some of the suggestions have been a catered meal for the most active club(s), gift cards or recognition articles in *The Elk Valley Times*. Each of the clubs was asked to discuss this at the local level and bring any additional suggestions back to the June County Council meeting.

100% Luncheon – The Annual fce Clubs' 100% Luncheon, which was held April 9, was very enjoyable. The First Presbyterian Church is a great facility; the clubs thanked Carolyn Slayton for making the arrangements for its use. This year's guest speaker was Laura Meyers, co-founder of Clothe Our Kids, a local non-profit organization. This organization works with the school system and DHS to provide clothes and shoes to kids from our communities that are in need of help. If any of the local clubs need a good community service project, this organization is definitely one worth considering.

A motion was made and carried that a date be reserved in April, 2017, for the 2016 100% Luncheon based on the caterer's available dates. Lillie Galvin will be contacting the South Central Human Resources Agency to get a quote for catering next year's event.

Revisions to the 100% Member, Master Club and Reading Forms – Discussion was opened concerning the form used to determine the 100% Member award winners. There are many things that fce Club members do regularly that do not count at all on the current form (i.e., committee members, organizing and assisting with fundraisers and events, community service projects that may or may not be related to fce, etc.) and some of the items that are counted are vaguely worded, no longer applicable or the points are awarded disproportionately. Each of the clubs was asked to discuss ideas for changes to the form to make it more *user-friendly*. The ideas should include things that fce Club members do regularly that your club members feel should be considered when selecting 100% members, as well as, ways to make the forms easier to understand, fill out and tally. A committee will be set up at the June meeting to work on creating new forms based on the criteria and format suggestions that are brought from the local clubs.

Community Activities – Two upcoming community events that the Lincoln County fce Clubs might like to support are the Relay for Life of Lincoln County, set for May 6 from 6:00 p.m. – midnight at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds, and the Lincoln County Heart Walk on October 23 at the Patrick Rehab-Wellness Center. Please discuss both of these with your local members. Possible participation in the Heart Walk will be discussed at the June meeting.

Scholarships for High School Seniors – The current scholarship application form needs to be revised. Eydie Foster has retyped the form and the fce Clubs' Educational Committee will review it and make any necessary changes. Also a motion to increase the amount of next year's scholarships was made and seconded. Beginning in 2017, the Lincoln County fce Clubs will be offering two \$500 scholarships to high school seniors in Lincoln County.

4-H Camp Scholarships – The fce Council voted to sponsor two 4th – 6th grade 4-Hers to the Junior 4-H Camp in June in Crossville; each scholarship will cost \$300. Carolyn Slayton will be presenting Dan Owen, the county’s UT Extension 4-H Agent, with a check for \$600.

Cultural Arts – Everyone was reminded that the county’s fce Cultural Arts will be held on Friday, August 5. There will be some new categories added for the county competition based on suggestions made by club members. While these items won’t be eligible to be entered in the regional or state fce Cultural Arts, participants will be able to enter them in the Lincoln County Fair in September.

“Dairy Day” on the Square & June Dairy Month Promotion – The annual “Dairy Day” on the square in Fayetteville will be held June 4. A discussion was held about fce Club participation in the event this year. Lisa Ritter agreed to check into this to find out details and to see whether or not there is a fee involved; participation could be as simple as setting up and giving away water or dairy snacks to those at the event. The group agreed that participation would be a good opportunity to get more recognition for the Lincoln County fce Clubs and their programs.

Also, Carlee Cowan is this year’s 4-H Dairy Month Chairman. She will be promoting Dairy Month throughout the month of June and should be available to speak at the June Council meeting about June Dairy Month and may possibly be able to provide suggestions or assistance with an fce June Dairy Month project.

National “Character Counts” 4th Grade Essay/Artwork Contest – All of the local clubs were asked to discuss this at their club meetings to decide whether or not this is a project that the Lincoln County fce Clubs would like to sponsor. The time frame for the competition would be September, 2016, thru January, 2017. [A flyer has been attached for those not familiar with the program.]

June County Council Meeting – Please remember that the next regularly scheduled bi-monthly **meeting of the Lincoln County fce Council will be Tuesday, June 14, at 9:30 a.m. in the Ralph Hastings Building.**

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Ellison

Vicki Ellison,
Lincoln County FCE Council Secretary