

**Cooper County Extension Endowment Committee
dinner meeting
6 p.m. Thursday, January 29, 2009
University Extension Center**

Committee Members Present: Dudley Kaiser, Dane Gregg, Lisa Held, and Jackie Hickam. Art Schneider also was present as Extension Center liaison.

Vacant Positions: Dudley called the meeting to order. There are five vacant positions to be filled representing business and financial institutions. Members discussed four nominees Norris "Ron" Bledsoe of Buy Bee Farm, Amanda Cantrell, retired; Ashley Nelson Benny, banker; and Norman Lenger.

Dudley also mentioned Mary Beth Long of Oasis Pools and Dane noted that he had been in contact with Eric Kraus about a new vice president of Citizens Community Bank of Pilot Grove.

Dean moved and Lisa seconded the following be appointed to the foundation board: Ashley Benny, financial; Ron Bledsoe, retired business; Amanda Cantrell, business; and Meribeth Long, business.

Passed unanimously.

Dane will let Art know about Citizens Community Bank representative. **Dane contacted Art February 10 and Patrick McNeive, new vice president at the bank, is willing to be a financial representative.**

Fundraising Events: Dudley asked about the foundation board doing a fundraising event. This was mentioned at the January 19 Foundation meeting. Jackie mentioned a chuck wagon event. She asked if the Extension/4-H Committee has anything scheduled. Art noted that they do have an event scheduled, but he did not have details with him. He said he would put it into the minutes. Here are the joint committee's plans:

Kids and Kritters Day on Sunday, April 26th from 1-4 PM. Goal is to raise \$5000 this day.

Some ideas that day consist of:

Charging \$1 for each fun event—such as--

Milk a cow

Feed a bottle to a baby goat

Play with or lead a bobby calf

Milk a goat

Feed a bunny

Feed a chicken

Ride a pony

Ride a horse

Carriage rides
Pony and cart rides
Shoot sports target shoot
Camping - make a smore or roast a hot dog
Arts and crafts- face painting
Horticulture- plant a flower in a pot you just painted
Animal science- Guess the organ or part
Clowning- Sell balloons
Hay ride
Straw maze

Also suggested was to ask the historical society to sponsor a re-enactment of 4-H is the 1930's or so.

Plans call for sponsorship for each booth so that the businesses/ families can help support the cause and have a concession stand for people to purchase from.

Also to be included are a 4-H Coronation of King and Queen and Duke and Duchess. Each club will need to have a minimum of four youth who are to raise money. The one with the most funds wins. They are thinking ages 15 and older for King and Queen and 14 and younger for Duke and Duchess.

Also, the committee is planning a possible Mystery Dinner later in the year.

Dane asked how the money will be handled. Art said he did not know. The foundation does have a three-account provision in its bylaws: accounts for ERIC (building fund), Foundation funds for overall use to support Extension Center programs and staffing, and 4-H so that funds can be earmarked for the youth assistant position. He mentioned he has reservations about joint fundraising ventures and how groups allocate funds. For example, one partner may put in little work and receive a disproportionate benefit. He suggested the foundation do its own fundraising.

Dane also discussed grants and Lisa mentioned the possibility of FEMA funds as Cooper County Emergency Management would be a likely partner in ERIC.

Dudley noted the regional benefit from ERIC and also mentioned the foundation should not overlook potential donations of time and labor towards ERIC.

Lisa said she has some materials on fundraising that she would be willing to provide.

Art said that Larry Dickerson, regional community development specialist in Columbia, has a background in fundraising and that the regional director has

included fundraising initiatives as part of the special's duties. He will be invited to the March meeting.

Art also mentioned Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) funds might be available.

Lisa moved that fundraising activities wait until after the foundation's organizational meeting in March. Dane seconded. Passed unanimously.

Meeting time: March 19 meeting: Dane moved that the March 19 meeting start at 7 p.m. and Lisa seconded. Passed unanimously. Emergency Management ill be contacted to see if that date is available.

Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.