

Los Angeles 4-H Council, Saturday, April 1, 2023 On line Virtual Meeting Zoom, conference call

Awards Presentation for County Field Day was held before the meeting at 9am. The County 4H Ambassadors moderated. Congratulations to all our participants. Awards will be listed in the Clover Notes.

Attendance includes - NSG-Noel Keller, Pomona Valley; Judylynn Pelling, Eagle Rock-Highland Park ; SSG- Johanna Stewart, Green Leaf; Peter Michel, J.P.Masciel, Ibrahim Yaaseen, Serena , Sophie Lowener - PVP; SFV - Amy & Maddy Lockmann, Ashley Arana, Agoura 4-H. AV - Sarah Bonham, Ryan Rough, Amber Boeker, Canyon Coyotes, Desiree Mullen, LV Racketteers, Charlene Moore, County Office.

The meeting of the Leaders Council was called to order by President Peter Michel at 9:30 am. Those attending introduced themselves and told what their plans were for the year. Sophie led the Flag salute and Ashley led the 4H pledge. Ashley moved we approve the agenda, seconded by Sophie, voted on and passed.

Minutes of the January 21, 2023 meeting. Noel Keller moved we accept the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Sophie. Voted on and passed.

Treasurer's Report: Sophie moved we approve it as submitted. Seconded by Noel. Voted on and passed.

Correspondence: None received

Open Forum – No discussion

Program—youth presentation - there was none.

Council Officer Reports:

Reporter/Historian - Ashley Arana - Ashely.k.arana@gmail.com. - Please continue sending in pictures of community service opportunities your club is taking part in. Send her articles and photos of club and district activities. Also of any fair pictures from November or of your 4H members participating. Would love to post to the account pictures of 4-H members actively participating. Email photos/videos/captions to my email. I will be posting soon about Los Angeles county 4-H Summer camp as we prepare for the 4-H members this summer.

County Office Report: - 1. Charlene Moore—new leaders need to fill out survey. Community leader needs to contact Charlene directly with name and club. 2. Her new office is in her back bedroom, so please use email to contact her.

District Reports 1. AV - They had a successful Livestock Symposium. They are working on Judging Day. 2. SFV- No report. 3. SSG –They had a district judging day, presentation day and fashion review and County food Fair. They are working on the SGV Fair. 4. NSG - report by Noel Keller The district had a successful, Monte Farmer's Fair on Feb. 4 in-person at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in the Eagle

Rock area. We were pleased to have 90 entries for the fair. The fair included craft activities, a judging contest, food auction and games. The district is currently finishing up the running LA County Field Day. Today the results were announced before this meeting. The district held a successful in-person NSG Home Ec & Field Day plus NSG County Food Fair on Saturday, March 11 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. The event included presentations by members, the food fair, some games, a judging contest and a cake walk. We are planning a NSG Spring Party at San Dimas Canyon Party and Potluck for April 2. We will have games and crafts along with an egg hunt. We are also helping to plan the San Gabriel Valley 4-H Fair, which will occur in April

Committee/ Other Reports:

All Star Ambassador Team -1. Ashley Arana will be collecting children's books, but she needs to find a new location as the County Judging Day has been canceled (see below). Communicate with the team at laountyambassador4h@gmail.com 2. Exciting news received at the end of the meeting, Ashley Arana has been confirmed as a new State 4H Ambassador! Congratulations Ashley! 3. Desiree Mullen has agreed to be a second LA County Ambassador Advisor for next year.

2. I&R County Incentive and Recognition Committee Report by Noel Keller, County I&R Committee Chair nkeller91711@gmail.com, 909-621-2373 – home, 909-957-6498 – cell

Spark Achievement Program Change is coming to the 4-H star rank achievement program and record book program. The State 4-H announced the new Spark Achievement Program last Fall and held free several webinars so we could learn more about the new program. Using the new Spark Achievement Program this year has been optional, but the State plans to make it mandatory next year for the then Junior members and new 4-H members. A few LA County 4-H clubs are now trying this new Spark Achievement for some of their members. Since the state says that we must start this program for Juniors and new members for the 2023-24, we will need to offer some training session for our leaders. We will probably try to offer training sessions in late August, September and November. The new Spark Achievement Manual and recording forms are now on the State 4-H website, and will be putting them on the county website. You can now go to these sources if you want more information now about what is to come.

So, how does this change affect us now? There is no change in record keeping this year for Primary members or returning members (all ages and ranks). For Junior members and new members (all ages) there is an option to start in the new 4-H Spark Achievement Program. The state says that for the 2023-24 year Juniors and new 4-H members then must start the Spark Achievement program – Level 1. The state will allow those members who are currently working on Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum star ranks to continue working on them in the current system, even if it takes several years. But they would have the option to switch over to the new Achievement Program at any time.

The county has allowed those Junior members and new 4-H members to start the Spark Achievement Program if they want to. For this year, we would require that for this new program, only written My Story sections will be accepted, not the other media options mentioned in the Spark Achievement Program manual.

2022-23 Record Books The LA County 4-H Record Book ID packet for 2023 is up on the county website. The project areas for evaluation will remain the same as last year. The same special LA County exceptions will be offered (no minimum word counts, no required LDR for Intermediates, no 11-page Collection of Work, etc.). The packet is much like last year, with updates for this year's dates.

If you are using the Spark Achievement Program this year, your record book will be different for your records this year. For this year, you will have a Spark Achievement report form, at least one Annual Project Report (APR) with an expression page and a My Story. For this year, you will not have a PDR, a Collection of Work or a LDR report. Seniors will also have a resume included. Your past years work will still remain in your record book.

2023-24 Record Books Today as we are working on our 2023-24 LA County 4-H Calendar, the I&R Committee is proposing a change to the timing of the 2023-24 record book judging. We are suggesting that the record book judging be moved from September earlier to the beginning of August. Our program year ends on June 30. We suggest that records be completed in July and then submitted for the County Record Book judging in early August. This way we finish up one year before the September start of club's programs. Graduating seniors may still be around to receive their 4-H graduation pins before they go off to college or a job.

We are not proposing this change for this year for 2022-23 records.

LA County 4-H Primary Achievement Program The current LA County 4-H Primary achievement program helps prepare members for record keeping associated with the current Bronze, Silver, Gold, Platinum Star rank program. LA County

4-H Primary members do not use the State Primary iSprout program currently. The iSprout program has been available for several years, but LA County 4-H chose to have their own Primary program. Now that the State is changing its Spark Achievement program, our LA County 4-H Primary program will no longer prepare Primary members for the new Spark Achievement Program. The iSprout program seems to be a better match and lead into the new Spark Achievement Program. We are considering a change to the state iSprout achievement program or perhaps some LA County 4-H variation of it. We thinking about encouraging the use of the state iSprout program on an optional basis for next year (2023-24) and then perhaps requiring it the following year. With the mandate of the Spark Achievement program starting in 2023-24, we think it would be too much to also mandate the use of the iSprout program at the same time. We want to pilot or try out the system first and then consider modifications for LA County if needed.

Information about the iSprout program is available on the state website. The program has been available for several years.

Friends of 4-H Each program year the County Council considers honoring an individual and/or organization that have been particularly helpful to the LA County 4-H program. Each district is encouraged to submit Friend of 4-H nominations to the County council at its next council meeting in March. Up to five such awards can be made for a year by the county council. The awards are presented at a special occasion arranged by the district nominating the recipient.

We have received one nomination from the SSG district for a Friend of 4-H award for this year, which we will vote on under Old Business.

District Representation on the County I&R Committee All districts should have two elected representatives on the county Incentives and Recognition Committee. The term for a representative is one year. The current 2022-2023 county I&R Committee members are Noel Keller and Judylynn Pelling from NSG,

Dee Keese and Peter Michel from SSG, Annette Hillman from AV, and Amy Lockmann from SFV. The committee usually meets by conference call during the year. The next meeting is Tuesday, "April 25 at 7:30pm by conference call.

3 LA County 4-H Field Day Los Angeles County 2023 4-H virtual Field Day was held in March. Members from five 4-H clubs participated with all four districts represented. We only had 34 entries this year and we congratulate those who made the effort to compete during this stressful time. We thank the volunteers who evaluated the County Field Day entries. We couldn't run the event without them.

The Entry by Video option was again used for our virtual County Field Day. Although our county presentation activities were done with YouTube videos, those who earn a Blue or Gold award and want to go on and compete at Regional (and then State) will need to compete "in-person" in a zoom room environment. Two exceptions to this are the areas of State Impromptu Speaking and the Interview Contest, which were scheduled to be done "in-person" in a zoom room for the County competition. County Impromptu Speaking was also done "in-person" in a zoom room for the County competition, but do not go on to the Regional competition. The results of the event were announced before this meeting around 9am by our LA County 4-H Ambassadors Ashley, Ibrahim and Sophie.

Our 4-H members did well in the county competition this year. One area that could be worked on is having a good introduction and conclusion for your presentation or performance. That can sometimes make the difference between a Blue and Gold award.

Regional and State Presentation Day activities will be run on Zoom and be much the same as last year and are set as follows:

Regional Presentation – County Blue and Gold award winners can compete virtually at Region

Virtual Regional Registration – January – April 18

Virtual Regional Competition – April 8 – April 22

In-person Region Competition – were run in several places cross the state, but not near here

State Presentation – Regional Blue and Gold award winners can compete at State

Virtual state competition option – May 10-20

In-person state competition option – May 27 in Davis

Award ceremony – May 28

Look for more information about all of this with links on the county website.

So that our LA 4-H members can compete at Regional and State Field Day, we need to provide a proportional number of evaluators for the event. We need volunteers to be evaluators. If you are able to volunteer to be an evaluator at the regional and/or the state presentation competition, you can apply online on the state website.

4. County Fashion Review April 29, 2023 –Melinda Kasperson Check the state flyer as there are 4 new categories that you do not have to be in Clothing to enter. The State Fashion Revue is May 27th.

5 County Judging Day was scheduled for April. 15, 2023, at Palmdale High School. Charlene asked for clubs to tell how many were coming from their club. The response was very low, about 20 to 30 at most. We discussed how to have this event where we give out over 100 medals with such a small attendance. Charlene suggested that we could skip it this year and have it next 4H year with the Livestock symposium. There would be livestock for judging. Amber moved we cancel Judging day this year. Seconded by Amy. Voted on and passed.

6. County Food Fair – They were held by SSG and NSG. Av. will have it April 22 .

7.County Science Event -May 6 --Ibrahim is planning a Science event at the California Science Center in Exposition Park on May 6. Members and their families can come and enjoy the Science Center. He will be sending out information on how we can meet up.

8. Summer Camp –Peter Michel—A new location has been found due to liability issues. It is the Lazy W Ranch near San Juan Capistrano. It will be June 25 to July 1, 2023. It is a beautiful camp and we are still accepting staff. The cost for members will be \$395 and 4H adults, \$200. We are hoping to have 100 campers.

9. Shooting Sports Report – none

11. Ad-Hoc By-laws/Constitution Committee Report—Noel Keller/Peter Michel The State is requiring that all the counties need to update their County Council Constitution and ByLaws to the new state template and have it in effect by July 1, 2023. Much of the language in the template is required and not open to change. It seems to be a combination of some of concepts of the 4-H Management System and the County Council system. An Ad-Hoc committee has been working on the change to this

new Constitution and By-Laws. The current draft was sent out to the LA County 4-H membership for review and comment. Our plan is to discuss it briefly today and make any needed adjustments and then vote on it at our May county council meeting. It would go into effect on July 1, 2023, as the State requires.

Charlene and Keith have reviewed the draft and have suggested no changes. Again, most the template language is required and we cannot change it.

Some of the new changes include the following:

- the council name is the Los Angeles County 4-H Council
- an office shall not be held by the same person for more than two consecutive years
- neither adult volunteer nor youth may serve for more than 4 years as an officer in any officer position
- there must be at least a two-year period after the final term before any additional service in any officer position
- youth should make up 50% of the council officers
- youth should make up 50% of council committees
- council officers have 2 year terms in the position

As you can see, there will be some changes to our procedures during the next program year. We will do our best to follow these new requirements, but it won't be easy. We will need more people to step into leadership in the county. We will need to encourage more senior youth to step into leadership in the county. Perhaps positions can be held by a youth and an adult. At this point, we need to get our County Council Constitution and ByLaws updated and in place by July 1, so we are compliance with the state requirements.

We should keep these new requirements in mind as we elect council officers for next year. We start with a clean slate of officer positions on July 1, but we need to be thinking about the future. We need to be training people to move up into positions.

Please look over this new County Council Constitution and ByLaws. Please let the Constitution and Bylaws Committee know your comments and suggestions. Remember we cannot change most of the language that is there.

Old Business 1. Friends of 4H nominations Dee Keese—I would like to submit Tina Wetts for this award. Her children grew up in the 4H program over 20 years ago. She was an engineer at Raytheon for years (recently retired) but has been collecting toys (15 huge trash bags full) from fellow friends, family and colleagues for over 20 years for our 4H club to hand out on Christmas Eve to the Wilmington Center, along with our club feeding a dinner to families in need. The PVP 4H Club was recently honored by Supervisor Janice Hahn in December but this wouldn't have been as successful if it weren't for this kind lady Tina Wetts that has been donating toys for years even after retirement. Just came to me that "Friends of 4H" would be a perfect way of showing our appreciation. Noel moved we approve Tina Wetts as a Friend of 4H. Seconded by Judylynn. Voted on and passed.

2. Sparks/iSprouts—covered in I&R report

3. Call for council officers for 2023-24 year—Nominations are Pres.—Peter Michel, VP—Amy Lockmann, 2nd VP—Maddy Lockmann, Treas.—Johanna Stewart , Sec—Judylynn Pelling . Additional nominations and the election of the County Council officers will occur at the May County Council meeting. The president will appoint the chairs.

4. Discussion for LA County 4-H 2023-24 Calendar . We are working on the calendar, and will have a draft ready for the vote at our next meeting. Please send Amy any additions or changes for it.

The current LA County 4-H 2022-23 Calendar is kept on the LA County 4-H website. This calendar was approved in May, 2022 at the county council meeting then. It was revised after our September and January county council meeting. As the program year progresses, changes will probably need to be made along the way, especially since the COVID restrictions and guidelines are continually changing due to changing pandemic conditions. We should attempt to keep this calendar up-to-date. Changes to the calendar need to be sent to the council Vice-President Amy Lockmann who coordinates the calendar dates. She sends the calendar date changes on to Roy Hillstock who then updates the calendar on the website. If an event is canceled or moved, the event date is canceled or moved on the website calendar.

Today we are looking to see if there are any updates that are needed for the current calendar on the website. The updates needed include the following:

- 1) 4-H Summer Camp was moved from June 20-24 to June 25-July 1.
- 2) Camp Staff Party was moved from July 2 to a date in July to be announced.
- 3) State Leadership Conference is July 28-30, 2023

5. Discussion for 2023-24 County council budget It will be voted on at the May meeting.

New Business 1. We need a new district rotation chart. We would like a committee to discuss this. It is tabled until May.

2. Record book up dates, check the I & R report.

3. **Hi-4H Activities** Tabled to May.

General Announcements 1. Apply for 4-H CA State Advisory Committees by May 31.

2. State Leadership Conference—summer

3. LA County Fair—May 5-29, 2023

4. 2023 4-H Summer Camp—June 25-July 1. www.4hsummercamp.com

5. Meet to work on calendar and executive meeting April 18

Next LA County 4H Council Meeting , May 13, 2023, (NSG hosting) via Zoom

We adjourned at 1:13pm.

Respectfully submitted, Judylynn Pelling, Secretary