

FRESNO COUNTY 4-H LEADERS COUNCIL

July 11, 2023

Via Zoom

Attendance: Tracy Newton, Elizabeth Ramirez – County; Tamika Thomas – ACE; Hannah Rothenfluh and Kristen Lysdahl Johnson - American Union; Cheryl Pachelbel, Candace Snell and Asa Chester – Blossom Trail; Janet Moore, Megan Parsons, Erin Collup, Cambria Dyes and Melissa Rajskup – Fairmont; Marlene Miyasaki, Nettie Niles and Jane Bedrosian – Fowler/Lone Star; Harinder Sran – Kerman; Catherine Hambleton – Kingsburg; Michelle Ward and Clara Plascencia – Reedley; Anne Cehrs, Brianna Moya and Miranda Moya – Renegades; Carol Wenstrand - Rural Route; Shaun Skierka and Serena Ramirez -Sierra; Anna Hun and Alena Pacheco – Valley Stem.

The meeting of the Fresno County Leaders Council was called to order at 6:32 pm by Janet Moore.

Flag Salute and 4-H pledge led by Asa Chester.

Introductions: Alpha by Club

Review Agenda: No changes

Review Minutes: Correction to Business – Standing Committees, Fashion Review, remove “it went well” as it had not yet taken place. Anne Cehrs made a motion to approve minutes as amended. Jane Bedrosian seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as amended.

Treasurer’s Report: Report updated as of 6/30/23. Three areas are in the red. Subaccount 3, Supplies is on-going, supplies are purchased and ready for purchase, there is no change. Subaccount 11, Fresno Scholarship, withdrawal window was missed, this return to black when the next withdrawal is made. Subaccount 12, SLC_CA & WA FOCUS has not changed in 4 years. Anne Cehrs requested that the previous months report also be available as it is not possible to see changes when only the current amounts are available. For example, small animal had an event that should have increased the amount in their subaccount. Tracy provided the previous balance and said she was always willing to provide balances if asked. The report was reviewed, agreed and filed.

Correspondence: Tracy shared thank you cards from Scholarship recipients, Emily Balch, Fairmont 4-H club and Riley Summers, Rural Route 4-H club.

Ambassador Introductions – Asa Chester, Brianna Moya and Miranda Moya introduced themselves. They will be attending the State Leadership Conference prior to their first meeting. Tracy announced that there is not a dedicated advisor, the county is interested in finding an advisor. Adult Volunteers have offered to assist with specific areas or specialties. More help is welcome.

Community Service Updates – Please report online through the county website.

a. STEM is piloting a reading and mindfulness program for teens, they will be teaching and partnering with Fresno Unified School District. Both teens and adults are welcome, there will be more information on the 4-H website. Stipends are available for the teen teachers.

b. American Union 4-H’ers placed flags at veteran’s grave sites in May. It was noticed while planting the flags that the crosses need painting, so their club has taken on a repainting project.

c. Blossom Trail had an “adopt a soldier” service project in May. They supported the locally deployed airmen from the 144th Fighter Wing by collecting items and sending care packages.

d. Kerman 4-H club put flags out on houses for Independence Day, it is a 15 year tradition and they are now having to order more flags.

e. Fairmont Horse group won their competition category at the Clovis Rodeo parade. They were awarded \$1100, and they are donating \$400 to the Central Valley Honor Flight.

4-H Online System: The old system is closed and transitioning to Z-suite which should be open and available to families on 8/15/23. Year-end numbers - 198 adults, 712 youth, Group enrollment 950

youth. Anna contributed to group enrollment through Valley STEM and after school programs also added to the increased group enrollment. Adult Leadership increased greatly over the previous year. The General Meeting club attendance competition was won by Reedley in the first half of the year and Blossom Trail the second half. Discussion was held on whether the clubs wanted to continue this incentive or change it. Discussion was not robust, it was tabled and will be brought up at the officer training day. Tracy reviewed that for youths who were not enrolled in 2022/23, who want to participate in any 4-H activity, they must complete paper enrollment with the 4-H office in order to be covered by insurance. This only pertains to new members, members enrolled in 2022/23 are still covered under last year's enrollment.

Business- Standing Committees:

- i. **Small Animal Achievement Day** – Held April 15 at Marcie West's father's ranch. Anne Cehrs reported tests were taken for Poultry, Rabbits and Pygmy Goats. There was also showmanship review. Fashion Review participants had priority. Awards were presented at 4-H fair. The event was very well organized.
- ii. **Fashion Review** – April 15 at the Fresno Fair Grounds, a very nice venue for the event. Shaun Skierka noted there were 32 members, 62 entries, 2 counties Fresno and Kings. It went well. Sierra 4-H will host again next year.
- iii. **Livestock Achievement Day** – April 22, Tracy reported it was held at Reedley College with 76 members participating. All CC had good response. It started at 8:30 am, stand alone, testing (skills/written started 8:30, testing by 9:00 and were done by 11:30). YQCA training was included.
- iv. **Incentive & Recognition** -Anyone interested please attend a zoom meeting on August 8th. This is an excellent opportunity for people who want to see changes in our county.
- v. **4-H Fair** – May 13th, Janet Moore noted that the poultry/rabbit event has become so large that it needs to be separated in the future. Anne Cehrs stated that grooming and showing was offered for pygmy goats. Tracy stated that still exhibit numbers increased over all and that there is a potential to add Vally STEM exhibit categories next year to provide more show opportunities to a greater number of youth.
- vi. **Clover Fest Report** – June 3rd, Tracy read report for Georgene Diener. The event was a great success. Approximately \$41,000 was made, \$36,000 after deposit for next year is made. Alumni Families make the event what it is and we are very grateful to them. Ticket sales went up to 279 from 232 and we had 4 bronze table sponsorships. June 1st is already reserved for the 2024 dinner at the same venue.
- vii. **Summer Camp** – June 20-24, Anne Cehrs stated it was the coldest week ever! Cabin heaters have been recommended for future years. Anne thanked the adult volunteers, especially Eric Skierka and Shawn Ryan as they covered all of the boys at the end of the week due to an unexpected attrition of several male counselors. The JC's were young and did a wonderful job. Camp-end surveys were all positive. Attendance was 72, an increase over last year. A cabin review was completed and it has been determined there is room for growth next year. Janet Moore was given a "job well done" for her work on the canteen.
- viii. **Record Books** – County judging is scheduled Saturday 8/5/23. Each club needs to provide 1 judge for every 5 books submitted. Both Spark and Historical books will be judged. Potentially a youth could submit both but only one will be judged. Cindy Suarez will help again this year but she plans to step back in 2024, a new county record book advisor is needed.
- ix. **State Field Day** – Fresno County was well represented. We had 68 entries with numerous medalists. All Fresno entries were made in person.

County Announcements/Discussions:

a. New Leader Council Board:

President – Janet Moore, she will continue another year.

Vice President - Melissa Rajskup

Secretary – Nettie Niles

Treasurer – Tamika Thomas

Anne Cehrs moved to approve the board, Hanna Rothenfluh seconded the motion, board was approved.

- b. Office move:** The 4-H office will be moving soon to the first floor, just to the right of the main entrance. A Pizza planning/open house meeting will take place on Tuesday, 8/1/23 at 5:30pm
- c. Year end announcements:** American Union club's out-going CCL, Diana Hepner will be missed. Blossom trail also has a leadership transition. Kerman has a great leader, they are encouraged to have more than one as it is a lot of work. Year end forms will be sent after the office move.
- d. State Leadership Conference:** held July 27th at UC Davis, last day to register is the 16th. There is an urgent need for male chaperones. Fresno County has 5 youth registered and 2 more who were expected to register today. Last year Fresno had zero participants. There are scholarships available through the state and Tractor Supply Company funds are available through the county as well.
- e. Fresno Fair Requirements:** Age for fair participation is based on what age the youth was on December 31st of the previous year (12/31/22 for 2023 fair). Parents have been moving their children up too soon, junior level youth are competing unnecessarily with intermediate level. Each livestock participant must turn an Annual Project Report at a minimum by 7/29/23. YQCA must be completed prior to the fair, it is recommended to not wait until the last minute to complete this training. Buckle sponsorship letters have been mailed.
- f. Uniform supplies back ordered:** Gently used whites are available at the county office. Scarves and stripes have finally been shipped. There is no date for hat shipments. Some sizes are available but only a few and no large hats. Of items are needed do not wait as supplies are limited.
- g. Market Sheep and Goat Show:** To be held at the Fresno Fair grounds Saturday, July 29th. Tracy spoke for Georgene. Participation is encouraged. On-line pre-registration is preferred, an increased price will be charged for walk-ons. Generators are not allowed at the fair grounds.

Calendar Review:

Please review the website and read newsletters and send articles to Tracy or Georgene Diener by 20th of month for publication.

September 12th is the next Council meeting

Anne Cehrs made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Jane Bedrosian. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Submitted by Shaun Skierka in absence of Angeleene Sanchez.