

Imperial County Community Leader's Meeting
January 6th, 2011
Farm Bureau Building
100 Broadway, El Centro, California

The Imperial County 4-H Leaders Council Meeting was called to order by Carla Paradise, Council President, at 7:00pm on January 6th, 2010 in El Centro, California.

The Flag Salute and 4-H Pledge were Led by Millie Spaugh.

Roll Call/Introductions

Everyone at the meeting introduced themselves. There were 15 clubs represented: Calipatria; Family; Holtville; Imperial; M&M; Magnolia; McCabe; Mt. Signal; Mulberry; Seeley; Star Route; Southwest Valley; Tri-City; United Valley; and Verde.

Reading of the Minutes

The minutes from the previous Leaders Council Meeting were passed out and read. The correction was made that the Cal Focus group attended the State Capital, not the S-T-A-K-E Capital.

Correspondence

Two thank you notes were passed around—one from Matthew Smith, and one from Kristen Weekes, both thanking the council for their sponsorship to attend the 2010 State Leaders' Forum in Asilomar.

Treasurer's Report

Kathy Reece, Secretary, reported that the current checking balance was \$41,487.25.

OLD BUSINESS

BBQ Percentage

The breakdown for the 2010 4-H BBQ were handed out. The most current approximate figure available was a profit \$20,293.29. This did not include top seller awards, and some costs from Bo Shropshire that were as yet unknown. This year's Council Budget and feasible percentage options were discussed.

Motion: Sherry Robertson moved to give clubs 30%, with the possibility of an additional payment should there be a budget surplus at the end of the year. Mickey Monte seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Cattle Call Programs

Sherry reported on the fundraiser 4-H was asked to do at this year's Cattle Call selling programs, as well as providing "Pooper Scoopers" for the parade. Both went very well, and about \$350 was made. 4-H was asked to provide both services next year.

Holiday Tea

Carol George announced that the Holiday Tea went very well, making \$1274 to go toward renovations of the Still Exhibit Building. Holtville and Tri-City procured the teas, Family provided sub sandwiches, and other clubs covered all the other details. There was a great showing for the silent auction, and many were impressed with the quality of items for sell.

DREC Open House/Plant & Flower Show

It was reported by Mary Harmon that the Imperial County has the oldest continually operating Field Station, which is preparing for its centennial celebration next year. This year, the Plant Show would take place at the field station as part of the DREC Open House on January 22nd. There are various other ways to participate, including educational exhibits, and Mary asked everyone to let her know by the 17th if they are interested.

Ethics Training

Carla announced that the final Ethics Training would take place on Saturday, January 11th. She stressed that 4-H, FFA, and Independents are all required to attend, and that last year 2 members were unable to show at the fair last year because they did not. She asked everyone to check the list of those who have attended, and to make sure they are on it.

NEW BUSINESS

Large Animal Pre-Fair

Linee Pacheco announced that the Large Animal Pre-Fair would take place on January 29th. There are hopes for the event to be really big this year both because of the inclusion of Horses and Swine for the first time in many years, as well as various speakers who will be giving livestock advice as well as judging.

Fair Entries

Carla announced that all fair entries are due to the livestock office on January 28th by 4:00pm.

Presentation Day

Mary announced that because no one registered for the event, the Early Bird Presentation Day was cancelled. The Spring Presentation Day will continue as scheduled.

Teen Involvement Conference

Mary asked anyone interested in attending the event to contact her the following day so that they can get signed up. Matthew Jones, Imperial County All Star and Southern Section Teen Council Treasurer, talked about the event. He emphasized the value of the event for building character, confidence, and public speaking skills.

Knowledge Bowl Test

Sherry announced that the test would be the same format as last year, and available to take at the Small Animal Pre-Fair, as well as both Fair Clean-Ups. The Junior knowledge base will be the 4-H level 1

curriculum, and the Senior will include levels 1 and 2. This year, it is possible that a group from San Diego might come to compete along with our local members.

State Leaders Forum

Asilomar attendees Matthew Smith, Kristen Weekes, and Millie Spaugh reported on their experience. Matthew talked about the schedule of the event. Kristen talked about the content of some of the available workshops, in particular what she learned about the Operation Military Kids (OMK) program. Millie talked about the Step It Up To Thrive Program she learned about at Asilomar, including a skit that demonstrated one of the ideas behind the program—that a goal of 4-H leaders should be to identify what members get out of 4-H (their “spark”), and try to serve those interests.

Step It Up To Thrive

Mary elaborated on the Step It Up To Thrive Program. Although it is not a new program, there has been major push recently to focus project work on what it ideally should be all about, which is to advance youth development. She announced that the County was looking to create an Imperial County 4-H Thrive Team, which consists of 2 adult volunteers and 2 youth. She asked anyone interested to contact the 4-H office no later than February 24th.

4-H Advisors Report

Mary gave a few reminders and announcements:

- The Fair Premium Book is not being printed by the Fair this year. She sent each club a copy printed by the 4-H Office, and it is available online.
- The 4-H Office has acquired a handbook for Song and Recreation Leaders. They will sell copies of the book for \$20.
- In response to Kristen’s interest in OMK, Mary talked about a recent small animal project that took place at the Navy Base and was very well received. Another one would be taking place on January 17th.
- Order Forms for the 4-H Jackets that are popular for showmanship are available.
- There is a State Competition Qualifier for a Meat Cut Judging Class that will be happening at UC Davis, unfortunately on the first day of the fair.

Livestock Leaders’ Report

Carol encouraged everyone to go to the Pre-Fairs, and to participate in the Whites Exchange.

Adjourn

Carla announced the Dates To Remember for the months of January and February, and adjourned the meeting at 8:10pm.