

**Los Angeles 4-H Council**, Saturday, January 21, 2023 On line Virtual Meeting  
Zoom, conference call

Attendance includes - NSG-Noel Keller, Pomona Valley; Judylynn Pelling, Eagle Rock-Highland Park ; SSG- Johanna Stewart, Green Leaf; Peter Michel, J.P.Masciel - PVP; SFV - Amy Lockmann, Ashley Arana, Agoura 4-H. AV - Sarah Bonham, Ryan Rough, Amber Boeker.

The meeting of the Leaders Council was called to order by President Peter Michel at 10:03am. Johanna made a motion to wave the Flag salute and 4H Pledge, Noel seconded the motion. Passed.

**Minutes** of the September 24, 2022 meeting. Amy Lockmann moved we accept the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Noel Keller. Voted on and passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** It was approved as submitted. The Amazon Smile program is being discontinued on Feb. 20.

**Correspondence:** None received

**Open Forum** – 1) The District Rotation Chart needs to be reviewed and possibly revised. The district rotation of running county events doesn't seem to be working at this time. If a district feels that they cannot organize and run their event, they should ask for help, not just walk away from running the event. Do we need to rethink the District Rotation Chart? Should we rotate the responsibilities or have districts do the same event each year? Should we go back to documenting how a particular event is run? Should events be organized and run by committees instead of districts?

2) We need to get more volunteers helping with county events. How do we make this happen? The same people are organizing and running events. We need to have new leaders working with experienced leaders to keep events going well in the future. New people, new ideas, new methods, keeping current with what is happening, new opportunities, etc.! The State 4-H encourages term limits on officers, but to do this we need more people volunteering to help.

**Program—youth presentation** - there was none.

**Council Officer Reports:** President's report -Happy New Year!

**Reporter/Historian** - Ashley Arana - [Ashely.k.arana@gmail.com](mailto: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. Posted about the Youth Summit I was able to be a part of and 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 has to move her office by the end of the month. She is looking for office space. She has lots of books that need to be given away. She needs judging day posters picked up at the Livestock Symposium. 2. Club checking accounts need to change their address to Keith's office. 3. Online enrollment will have a new system next year.

**District Reports** 1. AV - They are working on the Livestock Symposium. 2. SFV- No report. 3. SSG - In December they worked on Rose Parade Floats. They enjoyed an ice skating event. They served at a Soup Kitchen in Wilmington. On their whale watching boat ride they saw some whales. They are working on the SGV Fair. 4. NSG - report by Noel Keller We had a successful and fun NSG district Achievement event on Saturday, October 15. We presented awards, had a graduation ceremony for Zavien Gonzalez, a spooky cake contest, a cake walk, a craft project and games. We are hoping to have some zoom NSG district parties, but none have been planned yet. The district is now planning the Monte Farmer's Fair for Feb. 4 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and helping to plan the San Gabriel Valley 4-H Fair which will occur in April. Our NSG Home Ec & Field, plus NSG County Food Fair is being planned for March 4.

**Committee/ Other Reports:**

1. **All Star Ambassador Team** - Ashley Arana will be collecting children's books at the Livestock Symposium. Communicate with the team at [lacountyambassador4h@gmail.com](mailto:lacountyambassador4h@gmail.com)
2. **Jr. Leader Conference** was excellent with inspiring speakers from the state and fun activities.
3. **County Healthy Living Event** was fun with great presentations.
4. **County Judging Day** is Feb. 25, 2023, at Palmdale High School. Some clubs still need to volunteer to organize and run a judging room. Contact Charlene about that. After some discussion, it was moved by Noel, seconded by Ryan and passed that for this year the award ceremony for the judging would not be done the same day as the judging. After the judging, members will not need to stay to hear the awards. The award ceremony will be done before the County Council meeting on April 1. The judging certificates and awards would be mailed out after that. For next year it was suggested that after the judging we do the Healthy Living event before the awards. We are looking for ideas on how to get members to check their results in the rooms after the judging is closed.
5. **Livestock Symposium** - Jan. 28, 2023 Check the flyer. There are lots of speakers. Check in is at 8:15am, with a \$2 donation. A complete schedule is coming out. Canyon Coyotes 4-H Club is running a food booth for the event.
6. **County Field Day** - This year SSG district was scheduled to organize and run County Field Day. Since no plans were being made and NSG district wants to see this event happen this year, NSG district offered to organize and run this event with

personnel support from SSG district if needed. The offer was accepted and NSG will have an event packet available for distribution and posting on the county website by the end of January.

Plans for the LA County 4-H 2023 Field Day activities are now being made. Details of the Regional and State Field Days came out recently, so NSG district can now move forward with our county plans, which will be much like last year. The Entry by Video option will again be used for our virtual County Field Day. We hope to have the event packet for the virtual County Field Day activities out and on the county website by the end of the month. Although our county presentation activities will be 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. Exceptions to this are the areas of County Impromptu and Extemporaneous Speaking, State Impromptu Speaking and the Interview Contest, which would need to be done “in-person” in a zoom room for County competition. County Impromptu Speaking and Extemporaneous Speaking will be done “in-person” in a zoom room for County competition, but do not go on to the Regional competition.

The California 4-H Presentation Manual (Jan. 28, 2021) should be followed for presentation competitions this year. Our county field day dates are as follows:

**Mar 3** – entry forms due, **Mar 12** Impromptu/Extemporaneous /State Format Impromptu Evaluation on zoom, **Mar 13**– YouTube videos due, **Mar 19** – Interview Contest on zoom, **April 1**– results announced before County Council meeting

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 at Region Regional Registration –Jan– April 18  
Regional Competition – April 8 – April 21

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

Virtual state competition registration – TBA Virtual state competition option – TBA

In-person state competition option – May 27 Award ceremony – May 28

Look for more information about all of this to come out soon. See State Field Day on the state 4-H website for further details.

**7. County Fashion Revue** - The date is April 29<sup>th</sup>. 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 27<sup>th</sup>.

**8. County Food Fair** -- the Food Fair will be done by districts as was done the last 2 years.

**9..County Science Event** --Ibrahim is working on ideas for it. No report submitted.

**10. Summer Camp** –Peter Michel—June 20 to 24, 2023 at Seeley, Tentative. More information coming out soon.

**11. Shooting Sports Report** - 4-H Shooting Sports Workshop - Rifle Discipline, Sloughhouse, CA (Sacramento) Saturday, March 19 8am-6pm, Sunday, March 20 8am-4pm [www.sacvalley.org](http://www.sacvalley.org) Muzzle Loading Discipline Saturday, February 26, 8am-6pm Sunday, February 27 8am-4pm Bakersfield, CA

**12. I&R County Incentive and Recognition Committee Report** by Noel Keller, County I&R Committee Chair [nkeller91711@gmail.com](mailto:nkeller91711@gmail.com), 909-621-2373 – home, 909-957-6498 – cell

**2022 County Awards event** - The 2022 County Awards program was held on Zoom after the September County Council meeting on Saturday, Sept. 24. The LA 4-H All Star Ambassadors MC'ed the program. Of course, we wish there had been more participation by members in the competition, but the numbers were about the same as last year, which is encouraging because we were still dealing with COVID-19 issues. We had 30 records books submitted.

**2022 4-H Graduates** 2022 4-H Graduate pins and certificates were given out at district Achievement events in the fall. A 4-H graduate who was in 4-H for at least three years is eligible to receive an engraved 4-H graduate pin. Please contact Charlene Moore if one of your 2022 4-H graduates did not receive an engraved pin.

**Record Book Manual for 2022-2023** -The 2022-2023 manuals are on the county and state websites. Please read the Record Book manuals carefully and perhaps the districts should offer some leader and member training sessions. At this time, we expect that the County Record Book Competition will be run much like last year. Encourage your members to keep their records up-to-date during the year and not wait until summer to start their records.

**Spark Achievement Program** The State 4-H has announced the new Spark Achievement Program in its monthly newsletter and has held free webinars in November and December to learn more about the program. Using the new Program this year is still optional, but the State plans to make it mandatory next year for then junior members and new 4-H members. The state says it will have evaluation guidelines and forms available for the new program by March. The new Spark Achievement Manual and recording forms are now on the State 4-H website, and will hopefully put on the county website soon. Both the current record system and the new Spark Achievement system use the same Annual Project Report (APR) form, which may perhaps be the focus of our record book judging for 2022-23. Both systems also include a My Story requirement.

In summary, 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. Contact Noel, Judylynn or Charlene if you want more details about this new Spark Achievement Program.

The county will allow 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.

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.

**Junior/Teen Leader Merit Award** -Reminder - If a member wants to apply for a Junior or Teen Leader Merit Award, they need to be in Leadership project during the 4-H program year to be eligible for the award. All clubs should consider offering a Leadership project. Also, the member needs to complete a Leadership Development Report (LDR) to be considered for the award.

The state now has a Junior Leader pin and a Teen Leader pin. The I&R committee will discuss if we should consider using the pins instead of the current patches. If so, we would need to change our leader merit award patch.

**2022-2023 Officer Book forms** -The forms and information for the 2023 Officer Book Recognition program are available on the county website. All club officers are encouraged to prepare their officer records for award consideration after the end of the program year. Officers should start working on this now. Officers are encouraged to make their office the best it can be and try for a Gold medal. The evaluation of the officer records is done with the Danish system of judging so all officers have a chance to earn a Gold medal for their officer work.

**2023-2024 LA County 4-H Ambassador Applications** are due by Friday, Feb. 10, 2023. The new LA County 4-H Ambassadors will be announced on April 1. LA County 4-H Ambassador is the highest county honor for a member. Experienced, accomplished senior members should be encouraged to apply for this working honor. It is an opportunity to expand their leadership skills and experiences.

Once you are a LA County 4-H Ambassador, you are always a LA County 4-H Ambassador. A county 4-H Ambassador continues as a county 4-H Ambassador as long as they are enrolled as a 4-H member. It is the new county Ambassadors each year who take the lead for the Ambassador team that year. There is no term limit.

Note the name change now from LA County 4-H All-Star Ambassador to LA County 4-H Ambassador. The “All-Star” phrase has been dropped.

We would like to have two LA County Ambassador Advisors. We currently only have one. If you are interested in being considered for this position, please contact Charlene Moore. Next year we expect to have one continuing Ambassador and hopefully a few new ones. Please encourage your experienced senior members to apply. The application and information is on the county website.

**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. 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. Friend of 4-H nomination forms are available on the county website and should be submitted to the council President Peter Michel by March 19. So far, we have one nomination from SSG district.

**Old Business** 1. – The Youth Summit was attended by so many 11 to 13 year olds. It was very exciting, a weekend to remember. For next year, remember that 14 and older can participate as leaders of sessions and activities.

**2. Calendar updates**—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 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) Add Virtual Youth Summit to Jan. 27-29
- 2) Move NSG mtg from Feb. 7 to Jan. 31
- 3) Move County Interview Contest from Feb. 18 to March 19
- 4) Add LA County Ambassador interviews to Feb. 25
- 5) Move County Ambassadors announced from Feb. 25 to March 25

- 6) Add County Field Day entry forms due March 3
- 7) Add County Field Day videos due to March 13
- 8) Add County Imp/Exp Speaking Contest to March 12
- 9) Move AV District Fashion from March 24 to March 25
- 10) Change County Food Fair to AV Food Fair on March 25
- 11) Move County Fashion Revue from March 25 to April 29
- 12) Move County Science Fair from April 29 to May 6
- 13) Add Regional in-person Field Day to March 25
- 14) Add State Field Day in Davis to May 27
- 15) Add State Field Day Awards Ceremony online – May 28
- 16) Shooting dates should be added to the calendar, but none have been set up yet
- 17) Move NSG mtg from March 7 to Feb. 28
- 18) Add NSG Food Fair to March 4
- 19) For May 5, include (Thurs-Sun only) for LA County Fair listing
- 20) Move Mother's Day from May 7 to May 14
- 21) Add Exec Board mtg to March 19
- 22) Add Awards Ceremony for County Field Day and Judging Day to April 1
- 23) Add Camp Committee mtg to March 5
- 24) Add Camp committee mtg to June 4
- 25) Move Camp Staff Party from July 9 to July 2, 2023
- 26) Add Camp Committee mtg to July 23, 2023
- 27) Add NSG mtg to Sept. 5, 2023
- 28) Move Summer Camp (tentatively) from June 18 to Summer Camp June 20 – 24
- 29) Remove Summer Camp (tentatively) from June 25

Are there any other updates needed? If so, contact Amy Lockmann..

### **3. Vacant positions of LA County Council for 2022-23**

Agriculture Chair, Leader Support Chair, Parliamentarian/Policy secretary

**New Business** 1. Please let Peter know by 6pm March 19 the following information for our next council meeting:

Nominations for Friends of 4H,

Dates for 2023-2024 LA County 4-H Calendar

Nominations for County Council officers for 2023-24

Input for LA County Council 2023-24 budget

2. **Hi-4H Activities** Many of our LA County 4-H Clubs do not have many senior members or they are losing their senior members. In the past we had special opportunities for seniors. Members looked forward to being seniors, so they could participate in those opportunities, such as Snow Camp and other Hi-4H activities. Perhaps we should consider starting up a Hi-4H program again. We could start with district Hi-4H activities and try to have at least one county-wide activity. Seniors could organize and run the Hi-4-H activities as they work with and socialize with other seniors. Hi-4H activities could include field trips, service projects, parties, special projects such as career exploration, going to special events together, etc. Perhaps we could have the County Ambassador Team help with planning activities for seniors.

Please go back to your districts and clubs and see if there is any interest in planning special activities for Senior members only and how that might be run and offered. Let's ask our Second Vice-President to poll our senior members for their opinions on this.

3. **Graduate Pins** Judylynn – It was suggested that we consider giving 4H graduates their 4-H graduate pin at the beginning of their 4-H graduation year. After some discussion, it was decided to keep the system the same where the graduate pin is awarded at the end of the 4-H graduation year.

**General Announcements** 1. State Ambassadors applications are due on Jan. 23..  
2. LA County Fair—May 5-29, 2023

Next LA County 4H Council Meeting –April 1, 2023, (SFV hosting) via Zoom

We adjourned at 12:09pm.

Respectfully submitted, Judylynn Pelling, Secretary