Meeting Called to order by President Nick Peters at 6:35pm

Flag Salute and 4-H pledge lead by Matt Peters

Changes/Additions to the agenda: Dara Tobias commented that there has been a question regarding the reporting of comments made during the January meeting. An adult approached and felt that some comments were left out of the minutes. Dara asked that anyone who felt their comments were not included or correctly represented should let us know and it can be reported as a correction to the minutes. After some discussion, Judi Johnson moved to table the minutes to be referred to a committee, appointed by the President, for review. Motion amended to include only the section of the minutes titled “Grant Request by Alexis Sanchez...” The motion was seconded by Stacie McGrady. Paper ballots were distributed and Reporter Shana Strohn counted 20 votes in favor and 14 votes against. The motion carries.

Lisa Tobias asked to have it noted in the January minutes that she made the report for state records and recognition, so if there are any questions they can be directed to her.

Marian Tobias made a clarification to minutes regarding State Ambassador funding for LCORT. A notice from Steven Worker was sent to Bill Coates on Tuesday January 20 instead of January 26th. Marian reported to clarify that the State Ambassador program will be reimbursing Council for the fee for LCORT. The mileage will also be sent in directly to the state.

Minutes are approved as corrected.

Grant Request: Grace Tobias shared the details of her All Star project. She is also requesting funding for her project. The goal of this project is to encouraging youth to become more involved in their community. It is designed to increase the participant’s knowledge of the history of their community and to enhance their sense of belonging. They are planning a walk down town talking about historic properties and geologic details. She would like to create a t-shirt and dog tags for participants as well as coloring books, crayons and a gift for her helpers. Grace will be attending club meetings and putting a notice in the community bulletin to advertise. The scheduled day is April 25th with a rain date of May 3rd and the walk will take about an hour and a half. There will also be educational displays. Becky Doty moved to approve the request of $720.00 for supplies and refreshments. Motion was seconded by Sandra Green. After discussion and questions, all were in favor, motion carries.

Correspondence: Thank you notes were read from the following members: Matthew Peters, Mark Tobias, Chad Stricker, Lauren Coustette, Adrian Rodriguez, Gianna Brigantino, Linnae Rodriguez, Katie Nino, Brian Tobias, Kimberly Sparrer, Russell Tobias, Erik Rodriguez, Darren Coates, Ashley Coates, Anne Tobias, and leaders Nancy Coates and Darcy Rodriguez. Notes were also received from Heather Pereira and Kayla Casillas. They were missed during reading and will be read at the March meeting.

Treasurer’s Report:

Treasurer’s report given by Darcy Rodriguez as follows:

$ 19,701.46  in the regular checking account

$ 1,560.16   in the savings account

$ 1,355,089.10 in total assets
Club Reports:

Ausaymas: Made and delivered Valentines for the residents of Whispering Pines. They are working on community service and getting project meetings going.

Bitterwater:

Cienega: Working on a schedule for 2009 and preparing for presentation day. They have 18 families and 33 members. They are making heat packs for breast cancer patients. They have several new projects. Cooking is big and split into two age groups. Kids loved LCORT. Presentation day information and workshop would be really helpful to the newer members if anyone is interested creating a project.

Fairview: Kate Modic presented her All Star project to their group. Gabe Hatcher completed his project. They made Valentines for residents at North Side Center and will be rose pruning at Dunne Park, Feb 28th at 10:00 for 3 to 4 hours.

Pacheco: Meeting coming up next week

Paiciones Clover: Working on community service at the Pinnacles. They made valentine cards.

San Juan: Has grown by a few members and getting spring projects going.

Spring Grove: New member and starting meetings.

Santa Ana:

Sunnyslope: Kate Modic presented her All Star project. They made valentines for nursing home residents and discussed community service projects. One they will be doing is collecting bags for community pantry. They learned what goes on an agenda and what order items go in.

Union: Made Valentines for Veterans at the Veteran’s Hospital in Palo Alto. They are selling Pancake Breakfast tickets and working on Presentation Day. They worked at schoolhouse and even some mini, mini members came to help.

Other Reports:

All Star Report: Ashley and Darren Coates and Adrian and Eric Rodriguez reported on their session at LCORT. Team work was the focus of their project. They learned a lot about getting kids to provide feedback. Smaller groups seemed to work better for kids being willing to share. Learned how to improvise and continue when things got off track. They learned it is difficult to lead a session. They learned about the thought and work that goes into making a good session. They also reported that they often needed to adapt to each groups individual needs. They presented a thank you card to Council for sending the All Star team and delegates to LCORT. The All Stars and a few delegates present presented their teamwork project of the human ladder to the group. Linnae Rodriguez shared some important things she learned as a delegate at LCORT.

Update: Ashley Coates reported a date of March 14 from 9:00 to 12:00 for their Riverbed Clean -up project.

Presentation Day: Will be held at the Fairgrounds. Applications will be due March 30th to the 4-H office. Presentation Day will be April 4th. There was a question on the time as Spring Saturdays are often busy with sports. If there are any time conflicts note it on the application forms and we will take that into consideration when scheduling the day.

Unfinished Business:

Last meeting there was discussion on forming a committee to go over by laws. President Nick Peters asked if anyone is willing to be on the committee. Point of order from Steve Dasher: There may be a need to table this item due to the new handbook coming from State and the review of the county structure pending.
New Business:

Grant Request by Alexis Sanchez – WA Focus Community Service Project: Alexis reported on her project. She will be attending Washington Focus in July and will be doing a community service project to fulfill part of her commitment. She will be making fleece blankets for the children at Chamberlains Children’s Center. Total cost is going to be $900. $780 for materials and $120 for refreshments. They will be making 24 blankets. They are asking that members 12 and over volunteer to help make blankets. Marie Hoffman moved to fund $900 to Alexis for her project and Kurt Stricker seconded. In discussion, the materials will come from crossroads in Watsonville. The fabric is $6.99 per yard for solid colored fleece and $7.99 per yard for printed. Alexis will be going to clubs and printing flyers to share details with other clubs. Sandra Green called the question. All were in favor, motion carries.

Steve Dasher: Is here because he was asked by Peggy Mauk to perform a program review. After this review they develop a list of recommendations to plan for the upcoming year and the program in general. All counties go through a review at some point to evaluate how they are operating. A committee will be made up of 4-H staff, members of Council and members of the 4-H program, teen members are included. The committee will be conducting interviews and surveys. They hope to have a report and make recommendations by the end of June. There have been a lot of e-mails and contact from inside and outside of the County about what is happening in San Benito County. Steve is an advisor in San Diego County. His role is to support 4-H staff. Has been in other counties and each county is different based on the needs of the Council and membership. The needs and people who live in a county change over time so periodic review of any program is important. Steve shared a presentation based on the Four Essential elements of the 4-H program. These are belonging, mastery, generosity and independence. This is what the mission direction is based on. These four elements are developed from the original 8 elements.

Sonya Hammond from Monterey County shared her roll to help on a day to day basis to support the administration. She will ensure things are done correctly and fairly. She will meet with President Nick Peters and talk with Renay Winn to see how she does things and to help with the budget as it is available. They are pushing to get some program rep staffing in place as soon as possible. Sonya can be contacted at 831-759-7358 or slvareahammmond@ucdavis.edu. On a day to day basis Sonya will try to schedule a day to be here so she is available. One problem in the past has been communication. Is there a way to produce a Council sponsored newsletter? This will all be worked on as quickly as possible. Sonya will be available for signatures on applications requiring a staff member’s signature.

According to the motion to set up a review committee for the section of minutes labeled “Grant Request by Alexis Sanchez...” If anyone feels they want to clarify what was recorded in the January minutes, please submit your comments in writing to the office by Friday February 27, and Nick Peters will appoint a committee to make a recommendation to be voted on at the March meeting. All Council officers, will be present at the meeting and President Peters selected Judi Johnson, Marie Hoffman, Nancy Coates and Becky Doty as the leaders who were present during the January meeting. The meeting will take place Friday March 13th at 6:30 at the office unless otherwise notified.

Announcements:

Budget: It is time to start thinking about budget items for the new program year.

Scholarship and “Bank on Us” Programs: paperwork needs to be in timely manner.

Elections: Term of officers will be coming up and elections will be in June with new officers taking place in July.

Judi Johnson County Wide Food Project: Starting March 8, the County wide cultural foods project will be serving international dinner for the homeless as an ongoing project for 8 weeks.

Update on livestock meeting at the Fairgrounds: Christine Morrell reported on the most recent Livestock meeting. They discussed dates and times for showing but have not finalized anything. The time for the Junior Livestock Auction has
changed and will start at 10:00. The dinner will be after the Auction and will be for buyers who actually purchased an animal. Swine barns could be fixed up and there are changes being made with better dividers. Tag in for market animals will be done by leaders instead of taking the animals to the fairgrounds. There will be a leader tagging meeting on July 15, 2009 which is mandatory for project leaders. The committee is implementing a ‘No show no sell rule’. If the animal cannot make it to the show it will not be able to make it to the sale. The same applies to steers. The youth need to be able to lead the animal unassisted. IF the exhibitor cannot control animal they will not be able to show it, thus not being able to sell.

*Tickets are out for pancake breakfast:* Check with the office or Bruce Green if anyone needs more tickets.

**Next Council meeting will be February 23, 2008**

Meeting adjourned at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Dara C. Tobias