

Ventura County 4-H Council  
March 28, 2018 - General Meeting  
Ventura County Cooperative Extension Office Conference Room

- 1) Heather called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. with Sue Poland recording.

In attendance were:

Jenean Bass, Council Recording Secretary  
Kitty Beckmann, Council Vice President  
Heidi Marshall, Council Member at Large  
Annabel Faris, Highly Esteemed Staff  
Sue Poland, Council Secretary, recording  
Heather Wray, Council President

Anna Sorensen (youth)  
Alexandra Thompson (youth)

Deion Gerhard  
Cassie Larson  
Jackie Larson  
Regina Larson  
Maranda McLemore  
Virginia Reyes  
Edith Sorensen  
Candace Thompson

Flag salute and 4-H pledges were led by Anna Sorensen.

- 2) **Minutes** from 1/31/18 meeting were distributed and reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes from January (Deion, Jackie) passed unanimously.

3) **Treasurer Report**

- Leslie shared March's report showing Council with \$3448.60 in Discretionary Funds and \$4658.22 in sub-accounts as of 3/28/18.- Report attached.
- SLC fund has \$533.70. Heather explained that these funds were donated by Tractor Supply, intended to send our youth to Leadership Conference. These funds will be evenly divided among all youth who sign up, pay for, and attend the conference. After each participant assists with the Fair Awards Ceremony or Achievement Night, they will receive their portion of the funds. Funds allocated to youth who do not participate in one of those two events will remain in the account, carried over into next year.
- Note: For youth attending educational events, we also have travel stipend funds available. Youth may apply for a travel stipend to an educational event and also receive a portion of the SLC funds.
- Leslie shared the list of donor names for the 2017-18 program year:

William G. Scholie Ranch  
James Lloyd Butler Family LLC

A & S Fire Protection  
Sherrill Jean Borrell

Tierra Rejada Farms  
Linda Kay Donovan  
Oro Del Norte LLC  
Sue Poland  
Kitty Beckmann  
Jennifer Boone  
Tractor Supply  
Rio Farms LLC  
Ruth Maulhardt  
Gwyn Vanoni

Rancho Largo  
Gary Nichols  
Arthur Nichols  
United Way  
VCCF  
Deborah Meyer Morris  
Gills Onions  
Elaine Cavaletto  
Edith Sorensen  
Amylynn Robinson

- 4) **Correspondence Report:** Jenean will send thank you notes to above listed donors soon.
- 5) **PDC Liaison Report:** Kitty
- **PDC events for 2018-19** have been scheduled similarly to their dates for this year, with the exception of Small Animal Field Day – date was adjusted to hopefully not conflict with the Santa Barbara Fair
  - **PDC Leaders**, please submit your list of 2018-19 planned meeting dates to Kitty asap.
  - **Budget:** Board will address PDC 2018-19 budgets at their April planning meeting and present proposal at May's Council meeting.
- 6) **Committee Reports:**
- a) **4-H Office Report** – Annabel: The new 4-H Rep starts in about 10 days. Their HAREC offices have moved from the house to the new portable buildings at the front of the property. There are still issues – especially with phones. Thank you for your patience during this time of transition.
- b) **Small Animal:** Kitty reported that tonight's meeting was well attended. The SA Field Day will be held on May 12. The Large Animal Field Day will be held that morning and small animals that afternoon. Both events will be held at the Santa Rosa Clubhouse.
- c) **Large Livestock:** Virginia reported that she and Kitty will work details of logistics between the two separate May 12 events. There will be 2 separate registration surveys and 2 separate publicity flyers for these events.
- d) **Family & Consumer Science PDC:** Edith reported:
- **Food Faire** was well attended. Amylynn did a great job bringing science into the event with things like spice recognition. Great events included an impromptu food prep competition with three teams of 4.
  - **Fashion Revue:** Great outfits were presented during this evening event. The evening format worked well, with families appreciating the 2 ½ hour-ish evening schedule. Tentatively, the 2018-19 event has been planned for a Saturday, but that could easily be moved to a Friday evening like this year.
  - **PDC Budget:** is healthy. After a 2-year term, Edith is stepping down as Family/Consumer Science leader, so whoever steps in will be on good financial footing and well-stocked with pins and ribbons.

- **A Recommendation:** Whoever does step into this role might want to consider offering a county-wide cooking project. This could be done in one 6-hour day, or several shorter days. This could be done at the Farm, and would allow more kids to be eligible for Food Faire.
  - **Edith also offered...** to meet with the incoming PDC Leader for a time of transition/training/encouragement.
  - **Thank you, Edith, for your service!**
- e) **Equine PDC** – No report.
- f) **Skills PDC** – Heidi reported that Presentation day was 2/1`0. Melissa Lalum did a fantastic job with about 25 kids participating in all formats of presentations. Many of our clubs were represented. All these participants are now eligible for Southern Area Field Day.
- g) **Kaleidoscope** – Kitty reported that Rock, Paper, Scissors is about 1 ½ weeks away. Email with a registration link has been sent to all county 4-H families. There are lots of great projects planned – more than participants will likely be able to complete in the time available. A couple of them require pre-registration, and are limited to children ages 9+ - this is clear in the registration survey. Registration for this event closes April 3.
- h) **Southern Area** – Edith:
- State Management Board will be seeking new volunteers as current board terms end soon. They are challenged to find volunteers, just as we all are.
  - Southern Area Budget for events, like Field Day, appears weak. Currently, no funds have been budgeted for the upcoming Field Day. Fortunately, Mt. SAC is a free venue for us and State is providing medals for the events. Questions remain as to how judges' breakfast, gift baskets, etc., will be funded.
  - 4-H County Councils are not fully represented at Southern Area – several just don't participate. Counties wanting to send youth to events, like Field Day, will be required to provide volunteers to assist with the event. Field Day registration closes on April 9 – that's when we can find out how many of our youth plan to participate.
  - Edith asked that an email be sent out to Presentation Day participants reminding them to register for Field Day, and that they can also volunteer at that event.
- i) **Anna Sorensen** shared her Youth Summit report from the event she attended in January.
- j) **Emerald Star Presentation** was done by Alexandra Thompson, sharing her "Help for the Homeless" project with meals and blankets.

7) **Old Business:**

- a) **Awards Protocol:** Heather shared the protocol approved by the Board. Discussion ensued regarding the need to refer to Fair guidelines when determining requirements for an item to be entered in the Fair's 4H/Grange Division. The goal of this protocol (attached) is to bring our awards presentation in alignment with state protocol. Motion to adopt the protocol presented (Regina, Deion) passed unanimously.

b) **Ventura County Fair Buckles:** For the May Fair Livestock/Equestrian Committee meeting, there may be an agenda item to open discussion regarding adding a requirement that clubs participating in market livestock events donate funds to the Fair to cover the cost of belt buckles for those events. It is believed that such a donation would violate 4-H Policy (forcing 4-H to potentially fund awards that would potentially be given to non-4-H youth, and requiring fundraising by 4-H members). County Staff is pursuing this issue on our behalf.

8) **New Business:**

- a) **County Ambassadors:** In the past, we have always had our All-Star program, but no more. In its place, a new state program, the “County Ambassadors” will be adopted. Webinar training for the Council Board is ongoing, and a youth-directed webinar about this program is planned to be available in September. We anticipate this program will be kicked off January 1 after preliminary groundwork for its support is completed this fall. Our schedule is somewhat fluid, as our plans are dependent on State completing their milestones. When more information becomes available, we will share.
- b) **Calendar 2018/19:** Dates for 2018/19 County level events are planned, with schedules similar to this year. Once facilities have been confirmed, we will ask Susana to post these dates on the website.

9) **Any Questions?**

- a) Virginia asked if we’ve been informed regarding state 4-H membership fees for 2018-19. Answer: We haven’t yet, but expect to hear from state in early April, definitely in time for the Board’s April budget planning session. We are expecting state fees to be increased significantly.
- b) Virginia asked if she could order awards and pins for Large Livestock Field Day. Answer: Since she has budget funds available, she should.

10) **Meeting adjourned by Heather at 8:42**