

Ventura County 4-H Council
August 29, 2018 - General Meeting
Ventura County Cooperative Extension Office Conference Room

- 1) Heather called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. with Sue Poland recording.

In attendance were:

Jenean Bass, Council Corresponding Secretary
Kitty Beckmann, Vice President
Leslie Bellmore, Council Treasurer
Heidi Marshall, Council Member at Large
Sue Poland, Council Secretary, recording
Heather Wray, Council President
Valerie Zeko, Highly Esteemed Staff

Michelle Cole

Brad Cook

Julie Cook, youth

Katie Cook, youth

Tiffany Cook

Paula Estrella

Regina Larson

Rachel McClanahan

Maranda McLemore

Pam Purves

Amylynn Robinson

Virginia Reyes

Kim Rhodes

Julie Salomonson

Adler Striegel, youth

Adeline Vertucci, youth

Olivia Vertucci, youth

Rhonda Weeks

Jennie Willoughby

Shelby Wright, youth

Flag salute and 4-H pledges were led by Adeline and Olivia Vertucci, and Adler Striegel.

- 2) **Minutes** from June 27, 2018, meeting were distributed and reviewed.

Motion to approve the corrected minutes from the June meeting (Adler, Virginia) passed unanimously.

- 3) **Treasurers Report – Leslie:**

- Leslie shared the first report of a new fiscal year. All PDCs begin with a new budget allotment of \$100 (awards) and \$400 (education/events).
- Note: the SLC subaccount (current balance \$995.40) contains funds for 2 program years. Attendees for the 2018 SLC conference will split the approximately \$500 for the 2017-18 program year. The remainder will underwrite 2019 SLC attendance.

- 4) **Correspondence Report - Jenean:** Nothing to report

- 5) **PDC Liaison Report - Kitty:**

- **PDC Meeting Dates** for 2018-19 program year were distributed tonight and will be posted to website soon. Valerie offered to email the PDC meeting calendar and relevant contact information to all Club Leaders.
- **Equine PDC** submitted their dates: 10/28/18, 1/20/19, 2/24, 3/24, 4/28, 7/7. Their PDC meetings will probably be held at Soule Park at 8:00 a.m.

6) **Committee Reports:**

a) **4-H Office Report - Valerie:**

- **Clover Lines:** Currently, 277 issues of this are being mailed, costing the county almost \$400/month – about \$1.50 each. Currently, 144 copies are emailed (as a PDF attachment). Commencing next month, all Clover Lines will be emailed, using the email addresses from the Ca.4honline.com system. For members requiring printed copies of Clover Lines, they or their clubs are invited to print and distribute them.
- **Telephone:** Valerie's extension is x204 at (805) 525-9293.

b) **Family & Consumer Science – Rachel McClanahan:**

- **Food Faire and Fashion Revue:** They're considering dates/locations for these events. They would like to make these more educational and less competitive events, and possibly hold them at different locations. Fashion Revue will remain on a Friday evening – possibly at a school site (hence, dates would depend on the school calendar).

c) **Equine PDC - Rhonda:**

- Fair went well. About 10 4-H kids, some Grange, and a few independents participated – 21 total. Their goal for this year is to increase the number of youth involved.
- They'd like their belt buckles back, however recognize they may need to split their Fair into 4-H/FFA/Grange Divisions to get them. Discussion ensued regarding alignment of Horse Fair with Record Book guidelines.

d) **Small Animal – Amylynn:** Their first PDC meeting is scheduled for 10/24, 6:00, at the Coop Extension Office Library. All are invited!

e) **Skills PDC - Heidi:**

- Record Book evaluation day will be Saturday, 9/8.
- Thank you, Club Leaders, for getting 26 books turned in and finding 11 volunteer evaluators!

f) **STEAM - Kitty:**

- We've got a new name!
- Rock, Paper, Scissors Holiday event will be November 17 at HAREC. So far, they've planned soaps, candles, bath salts. They're seeking additional Holiday-caliber-gift craft ideas. Please send ideas to Kitty.
- Rock, Paper, Scissors organizing team next meeting will be September 5 at 7:00 at Coffee Bean (East Main St at Telephone).

g) **Southern Area – Edith, in absentia:** Edith sent in a flyer for the 9/22 Animal Science Field Day. It's a free event. Past speakers have always been very informative, and we expect the same this year. Amylynn is collecting donations for a silent auction fundraiser to be held there.

- h) **County Ambassadors:** The Chair position for this PDC has now been filled, however we await receipt of the official program handbook from State.
- i) **Friends of 4-H:** Heather described the letter-writing fundraiser program, and reminded all that last year, the 4-H Foundation offered a “Matching” day, and that funds may be directed to the County, or individual clubs or PDCs.

7) **Open Issues:**

a) **Calendars:**

- **PDC Meeting Dates** have all been turned in – well done!
- **Website:** Susana will post all meeting dates there soon.

b) **Reimbursement Policy:** Heather read our general reimbursement policy, and will ask Susana to post its guidelines and the reimbursement form on the website.

c) **Calendar of Events:** This will also be posted on the website. Please email any adds/changes.

d) **Website: ceventura.ucanr.edu.** There, click on “Youth, Families, & Communities” then “Ventura County 4-H” then “Ventura County 4-H Council” and then “Program Development Committees (PDCs)” These links are all in the left margin of the website.

8) **New Business:**

- a) **Roberts Rules of Order:** We discussed the need for continuous improvement to our meetings, and the need for orderly presentation of motions, then discussion on that motion, completed with a vote. Valerie distributed copies of a RROO motions “cheat sheet”.
- b) **Large Livestock PDC was inadvertently left off the PDC list, so reported now:** Virginia shared that their first meeting will be October 10, 7:00 at the Cooperative Extension Office Library
- c) **Fall Kickoff:** Last year’s event was a lot of work, with little attendance. There will be no “Kickoff” this year.
- d) **Project Leader Field Day:** This event had great feedback last year and will be held 10/20 at HAREC.
- e) **Mindfulness Retreat:** will be November 2-4 at Camp Ocean Pines in Cambria. Registration deadline is 9/15. Heather shared details that may be found on State 4-H website.
- f) **Southern Youth Summit:** This event for youth ages 11-14 (planned by youth ages 15-18) will be held January 18-20, 2019, at Pathfinder Ranch. Information and registration forms may be found on State’s website.
- g) **National 4-H Week:** This year, it will be October 8-12. Participation can be as simple as wearing your 4-H shirt to school one day during the week (and this counts as a Communication Credit in your Record Book).

- h) **TOTSOCE – Adler:** TOTSOCE kickoff event will be held at FoodShare on 9/18. Food collection will happen October 1-November 9. All Club Leaders will receive TOTSOCE Toolkits in their emails. Adler passed out information to those in attendance.
- i) **Backpacks for Kids – Adler:**
- In past years, we've given backpacks full of school supplies and flip flops to kids in Nicaragua.
 - This year, after Adler's visit there and observation of the sad state of their computer labs, Adler hopes to focus on collecting money for the high school computer lab. She has been advised not to send material goods (i.e., laptops) because of the risk of loss/theft.
 - She asked those in attendance to sign up to be a part of this, and offered to visit clubs to speak about the program.
- j) **Fair Review:** Prior to this meeting, Valerie received no emailed Fair feedback. Much discussion ensued.
- **Youth Building – Sewing Project:**, youth would appreciate more response, feedback, comments on their score cards.
 - **Youth Building – Baked Goods:** those in attendance reported they received no feedback on their score cards.
 - **Youth Building – Sewing Projects:**, youth work hard making those garments fit correctly, and requested the Fair display them on mannequins where the garments would fit/hang correctly.
 - **Youth Building – Tablesetting:** Tiffany's group reported that they did receive feedback, and appreciated it, but Rachel/Julie's group didn't receive any. It appears feedback was done inconsistently.
 - **Youth Building:** It has been rumored that 4-H fair submissions are judged more severely than other groups' – other groups don't have our structured projects and curriculum.
 - **Youth Building - Primary:** Desire was expressed that Primary entrants could win ribbons. They do get a pin though.
 - **Primary, in general:** Desire was expressed that Primary entrants could receive ribbons. Fair awards are spelled out in Entry Guides. Discussion ensued about the SRV Club's awarding last year of "special gifts" to their primary fair entrants, or that a "generic" green "4-H Fair Rosette" might being a possibility.
 - **Large Livestock:** Regarding the pen area – the uneven aisle spaces (very narrow on one side of the building, ample and comfortable on the other) seem unfair to those who get short-changed on space. Possibly this is done so that swine chutes/runways are lined up.
 - **Large Livestock:** Some groups/projects received no tack/feed pens, but others do. Allocation of tack pens to independent exhibitors should be re-evaluated, as they appear to receive more space per project than out club groups do. Steer project groups specifically complained of problems in this area.
 - **Large Livestock:** The diagram showing the planned pen arrangement had at least one error – in one particular row, 12 pens were diagrammed, but only 11 were set up. It caused confusion and stress during move-in.

- **Large Livestock – Breeding Projects:** To increase participation in the breeding projects, it was requested that these could be shown during the same week as market animals. Discussion ensued about pros/cons of this practice.
- **Large Livestock – Breeding Projects:** Could we have a 4-H Breeding Market Division for youth?
- **Youth Building:** This year, the displays were arranged much more nicely than last year – more visually pleasing.
- **Youth Building – Photography:** This year, there was only one “Best of Class” and no “Best of Division” winners. This is discouraging to the kids. Were there maybe not enough entrants in the classes to warrant a BOC? According to the Entry Guide, all blue ribbon entries are to be considered for BOC.
- **Large Livestock:** Why no ribbons given except for Grand Champion and Reserve?
- **Small Livestock:** Here, ribbons were given to everyone. It was nice to have “Market Ready” and place-ribbons awarded, however only animals going to the live auction should receive ribbons saying “Grand Champion” or “Grand Reserve”. Please use ribbons that correctly identify competitive placing and are consistent with auction participation.
- **Small Livestock:** Tone of the livestock barn was friendlier than last year. Thank you.
- **Fair Premium Vouchers:** Current practice, requiring those who won small premiums to return to the Fairgrounds after Fair closes to collect those premiums requires an additional trip, sometimes clear across the county, for those families. Is there any way those premiums could be paid on Sunday, or possibly mailed (with SASE maybe?) to those youth?
- **Youth Building:** Could we have a block of time on the stage for 4-H Presentations to be done?
- **Small Livestock:** Could a Market Duck division be brought back?
- **Small Livestock:** Could we add micro-mini pigs? (Anyone potentially interested in this project, please contact Rhonda West – her contact info is listed with the Equine PDC information)
- **Small Livestock:** Could we please add a Round Robin Showmanship event?
- **Large Livestock – Breeding Projects:** During Breeding Heifer and Breeding Swine Showmanship, the junior winners were not allowed to compete at the senior level. Why?

9) **Meeting adjourned by Heather at 9:10**