

4-H State Advisory Board Summary
January 23, 2021
Zoom Meeting

Treasurer's Report

The checking account balance is \$5,206.00. The Horse Project money was supposed to be moved by January of this year, but it hasn't happened yet. There are \$3,505.51 in the 4-H State Horse Program account. As of December 31, 2020, there was \$23,150.70 in the investment account. Zoom meetings have greatly reduced the expenses associated with our minutes.

Election of Vice President

Elizabeth Weaver was elected to the position of Vice President.

State Director's Report

Mental health is an issue for many because of the stress associated with 2020. Enrollments are down. Currently only 25% of last year's enrollments have re-enrolled. We have received no information regarding the status of the 2021 State 4-H Fair. Hopefully, we will get an indication regarding fair in the next couple of months.

In-Person Meeting Update – Any event that can be done remotely should be done remotely. Governor Inslee's Healthy Washington Roadmap to Recovery now has eight regions and two phases. All regions are in phase 1 and must meet four metrics to advance to phase 2. In-Person Planning Documents are ready for counties to submit for special events. All requests must go through 4-H staff/faculty and then the County Extension Office, State 4-H Office, and WSU Extension for approval. All safety protocols have to be met, and it needs to be five people or less. We are waiting for updated Agricultural Events guidance from Governor Inslee's office. Outdoor events of five or less can be approved.

Donations from Northwest Farm Credit Services – Emily Adams is now doing all of Extension's fundraising. \$50,000 has been received for 4-H Eco-Stewardship. This includes salary support for a coordinator, youth stipends, equipment, technology, and professional development for community volunteers and staff in Chelan and Douglas counties. \$50,000 has also been received for 4-H Virtual Programming. This includes internet and hardware/software, 4-H STEM learning kits, online curriculum and virtual resources, at home 4-H learning kits, and safety supplies for when in-person learning resumes.

4-H Learning Kits – About 8,000 kits were prepared and included Welcome Back to 4-H kits, Healthy Living, Horticulture, and others. Hands on kits were made available in many ways (pickup at Extension Office, etc.).

Virtual Trainings – There is a new Facebook site for virtual trainings. "Upcoming 4-H Events and Trainings" already has over 30 trainings that are open to everyone online.

State of Innovation Challenge – This is a statewide program thru the governor’s office. The three challenges are the food chain, responding to Covid-19, and after Covid-19. This can be delivered by a teacher and available thru the website.

Kudos – The Clark County Juvenile Court Partnership contacted Nancy Deringer expressing their thanks that 4-H has been creating hands-on, engaging activities for youth to do at home. 4-H is one of few youth groups still working with youth. National 4-H Council expressed their appreciation for the dedication of Washington State’s team and their drive to create meaningful experiences for youth. Junior Master Gardeners of Island County grant, Spokane County, Kalispel Tribe, and others have been recognized for their efforts.

Washington State Library has some money available for Workforce Development Librarian and 4-H Tech Changemakers. The focus is digital skills and employability.

Oregon State University received a USDA NIFA grant for virtual reality field trips (DIVE4agriculture) that focus on agriculture from fish to forest to fields. They wrote us into their proposal, so we will be partnering with them and offering this cutting-edge curriculum to our 4-H youth.

Grants Submitted – Journalism About Science in Society (JASS) – This is a science media literacy grant. This grant is from National Science Foundation for youth 8-14 years of age. The total grant is \$1,320,870 with \$262,380 going to Extension 4-H Youth Development.

AI Institute: Agriculture AI for Transforming Workforce and Decision Support (AgAID) – They have an artificial intelligence curriculum grant. The School of Engineering will write AI curriculum for secondary 4-H youth. This is a very large, multi-state grant for developing and deploying AI technologies in agriculture, and for preparing the next generation of workforce in agriculture and technology.

4-H is a part of the Rural Health and Safety grant and a Mental Health of Farmers grant. We will put together a training program for QPR that would allow all teens and volunteers to receive mental health/first aid training. In 2021 we will be training people and in the fall hosting training.

Miscellaneous

Mayyadah Zagelow (Youth in Action Pillar winner) – “Authors of Change” is a virtual 4-H teen retreat that will discuss how to make a change within their community or start a task force. The flier is on the equity website. www.wa4hteenequity.weebly.com/#/

Goals for 2021

The following are the results of brainstorming done by the Advisory Board members.

Personal on Board

- Create Standard Operating Procedures for things that happen on the board, i.e., award selection – RG
- Increase leader participation.

- Help to update out of date forms/guidelines that pertain to the board-SC
- More public relations, virtual training opportunities i.e., how to conduct a virtual 4-H meeting – PHU
- Represent State Program at Advisory Board as liaison and historical background/perspective vs. APD
- Increase teen participation – MZ
- Help hone the mission/direction of the board into a new role.
- Create an action plan for leaders to use in the assistance of member’s mental and emotional health as we come out of the pandemic-LW
- Create partnerships with other non-profits to show students that there are opportunities for activism and that they have a voice-LW

Board as a Whole

- Help us recruit both youth and volunteers from underrepresented groups.
- Bring in more of an equity focus and increase representation on the board – MZ
- Increase representation on the board from underserved audiences.
- Find ways to facilitate accessible leader training-RG
- Implement and share how to make Zoom meetings more accessible and inclusive-MZ
- Help find a way for all youth to participate in the virtual activities. Too many of our youth do not have the availability or way to connect to virtual activities.
- Help the mental and emotional health of both members and leaders-LW
- Direct some attention towards supporting club program.
- Make public relations materials available for us to push out to our counties. More virtual training and sharing throughout state-PHU
- Provide guidance and perspective APD
- Improve the board’s financial resources PHU

www.facebook.com/explore4HWSUExtension

Leader Education

Delivery

- Zoom conference
- Google Classroom
- Canvas
- WebEx
- Flipped/hybrid classroom
- Mentimeter
- Case-Based Lessons
- Not just teaching concepts, but involve practice
- Facilitation Training
- Nearpod

Topics

- Implementing anti-racist practices within clubs and statewide
- Dress code purpose and importance

- Continued education on how to be inclusive of diverse gender identities and sexualities (i.e. rooming, names, and pronoun)
- Topic Ideas: Mental and emotional health; suicide prevention; judging protocols; oral reasons; judging trainings (How to give feedback)
- Ideas of how to encourage more of an ethnically diverse enrollment.
- Supporting youth with disabilities
- Basics of raising quality animals, conformation, genetics, developing your herd, breeding
- 4-H resources from National catalog i.e. STEM kits
- Expose to a variety of careers
- Adapting “traditional” club model to new audiences
- How to appreciate procrastinators
- How to keep our youth motivated

Speakers

- Amanda Gorman – poet laureate
- Guest speakers from the various industries i.e., Cattle Association (how to select your calf, how to prepare for shows, etc.)

Volunteer Education Proposed Plan

Jana Ferris shared the Volunteer Education Proposed Plan. It is scheduled to be implemented in October of 2021 and includes changes to the training required for volunteer leaders. This plan will ensure that all volunteers in Washington State receive the same training. Jana emphasized that we need to teach the way we want the kids to be taught. The goal is to have the first part rolled out on October 1, 2021. This will be a volunteer, faculty, and staff collaboration. There is a group of topics that would be 15-minute pod casts.

Miscellaneous

It was mentioned that the Advisory Board’s members can lobby for 4-H, but we can’t say we are speaking for 4-H. At this time legislators are focused on unemployment, food/housing, people dying from Covid, etc. Any message requesting support for 4-H needs to be planned. It was suggested putting a presentation with stories from teens together that could be given to legislatures. The message needs to be consistent, and we may not be ready for it until we have identified where 4-H is going.