

San Juan County Leaders Council Meeting
Minutes
April 18th, 2015, at the Lopez Library 7:30 a.m.

Present: President: Kathy Morris, Treasurer: Florence McAlary-McFarland Co-Chairs LMAAC: Don Burt and Bill Shaw, Standing in for Secretary: Amy Lum Delores Foss, Tamara Greene, Jodi Fowler,

Guest: Veterinarian Susan Besel

Staff Present: Gail Leschine-Seitz, Tom Schultz (via phone)

7:30 a.m. Call meeting to order- President

Secretary Report- Since secretary was absent, Amy Lum volunteered to take the minutes. The February minutes were approved.

Treasurer report- Barb Bevens will not be acting as treasurer for a while due to a family emergency. Flo will take on the responsibility for the both of them. Flo updated the progress that she and Barb have made toward setting up an accounting system. She would like to use Quicken, and needs to have it mac compatible. She raised the question if two copies could be purchased, for Mac and PC. Also discussed was the possibility of hiring an accountant to take on some of the work. No decision was made at this time. A new volunteer is needed to take over the Treasurer position for next year, and Flo would be willing to train them.

LMAAC financial summary provided? Yes, Barb had it, and copies will be provided for next meeting. It has been reviewed. President voiced the need for LMAAC and Leaders Council to be in better communication. It was suggested that Randi Mayberry could call in for the January meeting.

Committee reports:

A: LMAAC- They will schedule a meeting soon, to occur before the pre weigh in date. That pre weigh in day is scheduled for May 30th. The livestock committee wants that date to be a moment for all auction participants to meet and make expectations clear. It is required, and is an opportunity to reduce disappointment at fair. At the weigh in a vet will be present to help resolve preexisting health issues. There will be more educational activities planned for the kids. A discussion ensued about the pros and cons of bringing animals to the weigh in. Concerns about biosecurity were raised, and it was agreed that it would be possible to have some sort of disinfectant available as animals go over the scales. It was generally agreed that biosecurity needs to be considered. Logistics of travel from different island is also an issue. The livestock committee has funds available to cover the cost of ferry fare for one stock trailer from each island. There was discussion about the timing of the event and how it coincides with the animal purchase deadlines – one example being that the

deadline for buying a lamb is after the May 30th event. That will be better organized next year. The date was set earlier due to a busy June schedule and so that there is time for kids to get the information they need to work with their project animals.

A list of project animal participants was circulated, but there was not enough time at the meeting to go over the list.

It was agreed to have the next Leaders council meeting on the same day, May 30th.

B: Horse- There are 3 horse shows this year

C: Awards and Recognition- Mr. T's is going well. Good service and repairs. There is a problem of figuring out how to bill the plaques and keepers, lots of information to keep straight, and a plan is needed to track it. This job will likely fall to the treasurer.

Kathy requested a list of unsponsored trophies for Leaders to have in order to get new sponsors for these trophies. A script could be provided for kids so they can do the asking. It was noted that there are sponsors for ribbons too, and a script for that would be helpful too.

Question was raised if LMAAC could find a jacket sponsor replacement, since Skagit Farmers isn't going to do that again this year. LMAAC will look into it.

D: Scholarship- It was suggested that the EAS follow-up questionnaire be reviewed to make sure that the questions asked on it are relevant. That should be done next January.

Should all scholarships be handled through one entity? A discussion took place about the function of the scholarship committee, and how to have scholarships made available. The point was made that it would make sense to have all scholarships under one entity, for the ease of families who are looking for and applying for scholarships. That way kids would have financial options, and would know what funding is available. Currently the livestock committee has scholarships available to kids, but they must be applied for through the livestock committee. It was suggested that the livestock committee dedicate an amount of money available for scholarships and have it be available through the scholarship committee. All applications would be available on the 4-H website, and applicants would still need to follow the requirements of individual scholarships (for example, providing a presentation to the livestock committee upon completion of the event) There is concern by the livestock committee about the funding of the scholarships, and having it as a budget line item.

It was suggested by Gail that the Leaders Council come up with a countywide fundraiser to raise money for all these scholarships and trophies. A big fundraiser would raise funds for 4-H, raise awareness of 4-H in our community and educate the public. A target for the fundraiser could make it more successful. One suggestion was the scholarship fund, something that resonates with the people we'd hope to

attract to the event. Bill Shaw has some ideas for a great island wide fundraiser, and more will be discussed at the next meeting. One idea tossed out is a harvest festival. Possible venue could be the fairgrounds. To ensure success, it was suggested that tickets need to be sold ahead of time, and that each club would have a quota of tickets to sell.

Unfinished business:

- A. 2015 policy manuals passed out. It needs review.
- B. Grievance policy finalized—Modifications to the grievance policy were reviewed. More discussion took place about a couple of items. First, does the grievance committee need to physically meet every day at the fair? It was agreed that the committee only needs to physically meet in the event of a grievance; otherwise a phone check in daily would be sufficient. Gail is the grievance committee chairperson, and organizes the members. In the event of a grievance, the committee needs to be activated within 12 hours, and it was clarified that that means fair hours (i.e. if the grievance is filed at 9pm, the group has until 9pm the following day to convene.)
It was voiced that the sifting committee will hopefully reduce possible grievances about livestock this year.
Changes were discussed about the steps to follow on the grievance policy. The discussion was about the involvement of the Leaders Council in the grievance, and the necessity of finding a member of the leaders Council in the event the grievance was denied by all the previous steps. It was agreed that WSU employees must see the grievances, and the fourth bullet point of the policy will be modified.
Flo made a motion to adopt the modified grievance policy. Amy seconded. Vote was approved.
- C. Poultry barn—There was a discussion about how to manage the manure in the chicken barn during the fair. It has been suggested that kids need to rake out the manure daily to ensure more sanitary conditions and reduce the ammonia in the barn. The San Juan club is going to test out bottomless cages, which are much easier to clean on a daily basis.
That process was questioned, bringing up the feasibility of cleaning under the cages that the barn currently has. It was suggested that there is considerable health risk in raking out the manure, as it is hard to access and will then be out in the aisles and put pathogens in the air. An alternative suggestion was to layer shavings on top of the manure daily, to reduce the smell and possibly act more like a deep bedding system. There has been nothing done to ameliorate the smell in the barn for the last few years. One possibility that was offered is to try both methods for this current fair year, and see which system works best. No decision was made about this problem at this meeting. Discuss to follow at May Meeting on SJI
- D. Vet checks at fair—There was a discussion about the timing of vet checks and how to make that happen more smoothly. When can animals come to the fair? Should smaller animals and livestock be allowed to come early? (for example, should families traveling from other islands who need to come

early for the horse events be allowed to bring other fair bound animals?) Bill suggested that a schedule needs to be set for checking in and vet checks. While Susan does not want to be constantly on call for check ins, she would be willing to come at an appointed time on an earlier day to check in livestock. Ideally animals will not be allowed to leave the trailers until they have been checked by the vet. Due to the ferry schedule, this makes for certain very congested periods on check in day. More discussion of this topic will happen at a later time.

Next Leaders Council meeting date tentatively set for May 30th on San Juan Island.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40.

Motions made:

February meeting minutes approved

Flo motioned we pass the grievance policy with noted changes, Amy seconded
PASSED

Action to be taken:

Awards and Recognition committee will provide a list of unsponsored trophies to leaders at May meeting to find new sponsors, include a script for youth to ask businesses.

Scholarship committee will review the EAS followup questionnaire and update by January

LMAAC will discuss running all scholarships through Leaders Council, thus making it a budget item. No motion was made at this time

LMAAC – schedule a meeting to finalize plans for the weigh-in on May 30th. See discussion above

Recruit new treasurer. See discussion above