

Leaders Council meeting January 9, 2016

Orcas Hotel

Roll Call: Kathy Morris, Jenny DeGroot, Lorena Stankevich, Flo McClary, Bill Shaw, Gail Leschine-Seitz, Nancy Ballman, Don Burt, Delores Foss, Josephine Bangs, Amy Lum, Shirley Lange, Jan Sanburg, Rachel Bishop

Guests: Dave Ridle and Danica from the Country Store in Burlington/Mt Vernon

Business Meeting:

The November meeting minutes were approved. (Not sure who made the motion) Flo gave the treasurer report. She completed the annual report and submitted it. Money had been budgeted for purchase of a new computer, which has Quicken installed on it. Getting the computer set up and working is going well. Flo noted the money brought to the club from the flea market on San Juan in December, which was successful due to Gail's efforts baking for it. Thank you Gail.

Committee Reports:

- LMAAC** gave a report of their meeting earlier this week. Highlights are:
- *The proposed deletion of the representative hen requirement passed.
 - *The proposal to add a Farmers Dozen of eggs to the Market Auction passed.
 - *The proposal to allow 2 auction animals per participant, one large animal and one small animal (or eggs) ended in a tie, after a great discussion, and did not pass. Each participant will be allowed to auction one animal, and eggs as the only second item.
 - *The proposal for partial distribution of turnback money to Leaders Council for scholarship funding passed.
- A discussion followed clarifying what that means for LMAAC and Leaders Council. This fund will not be constant as amount available will vary from year to year due to auction turnback sales outcomes. Flo asked if the variance in funding amount would affect the \$800 dedicated to the Pierre Franklin award. It will not, as the funding for that award is a separate amount. As the Pierre Franklin award was not given to any participant this year, the money will be held to go toward next year's award. The family who originally sponsored the award used to also contribute to the scholarship, but does not contribute any more. It was noted there needs to be a change in the Premium book. Kathy suggested that the leaders need to find and encourage students to apply this award. Lorena pointed out the difficulty of finding that student, as it is awarded after the first year of college. This will be up for further discussion by the scholarship committee.
- *A motion was made by Flo to approve the LMAAC poultry proposals. Seconded by Jan S, and approved.
 - *A motion was made by Flo to approve the turnback proposal. Further discussion was held about whether the Pierre Franklin award should be combined with the \$5000 balance held by LMAAC. It was agreed that was not necessary at his time.

However, the question was asked if \$5000 was enough money to keep in the treasury fund as working capital, and whether it would be better to keep \$6000. *An amendment to change the motion on the floor made by Jan --to change the \$5000 to \$6000. Bill Shaw seconded, and the motion was approved. Jan made the motion to approve the amended proposal, Lorena seconded. It was approved.

There was discussion about the need for a buyer package, in order to educate the buyers about the cost of the auction. This package should show other ways buyers could support 4-H with donations, and also address the fears buyers have (about cost, etc) Rachel B suggested banners that would promote the businesses and thank them for their support.

The weigh in will happen on May 21st at the fairgrounds.

Awards And Recognition:

Clarifying who is on the committee: Lorena, Flo, Jan, Kathy, Amy. Who else? Terry...

There will be a person on each island designated to collect and return trophies annually. Lorena expressed concern that the schedule she worked to create last year was not in use. Gail said the schedule was submitted to the committee, Terry has it, but the structure of the committee has changed. A date will be set to have the committee meet on Orcas soon.

Horse:

A proposed change to the Leaders Council Policy Manual was submitted. This change will clarify and define more clearly the way the points are awarded in each type class. This is something that is already happening, and is now being stated officially in the policy.

A motion was made by Amy to approve the addition. Flo seconded. The motion passed.

The Trailblazers Club will host a show at the fairgrounds on June 24th and 25th.

Scholarship Committee:

Still Life Committee:

Kathy is working on it, and has some great ideas.

Old Business:

Cookbooks: need recipes. It is a good fundraiser to get out there.

Flea Market: Happened in December, not much participation (no kids there to represent 4-H, just one person selling cat toys) It's a tough time of year for participation. Some knives were sold and money was raised through donations for coffee and treats.

Round Robin: Amy and Josephine will work on questions and have the updated questions ready before June 1st. Amy will try to have them for the March meeting.

Leader Training on Lopez, Shaw, Orcas, San Juan -- There was a training in September, and the next one is scheduled on Orcas on January 25th.

Online Enrollment: There was a discussion about a good date for the final enrollment in order to participate in the county fair. Gail would like to have one date only. Kathy would prefer the date for new members entering still life only to be June 1st. Jan agreed that June is plenty of time for still life participants to get their required meeting hours and other required responsibilities accomplished. It was noted that most clubs in the state have deadlines that are much earlier, often in December. This deadline would mean that while new members could still join the club after that date, they would only be able to enter items in open class at the fair. Kathy disagreed, pointing out that encouraging new members to show as a 4-H participant was important as it inspired them to look ahead to the following year.

Gail suggested that March 1st is a good compromise date, and would give her enough time to get her end of the paperwork accomplished in a timely manner.

More research will be done to find out what WSU supports for a timeline. For this year the March 1st deadline for returning members will stand, and the June 1st deadline for new members showing still life will also stand.

New Business:

Skagit Farmers: Dave Ridle and Danika from Skagit Farmers presented the updated Youth Rewards Program. Kids need to sign up each year in order to participate. The discount of 10% is given immediately upon purchase. The list of what is eligible in the program has expanded. There is still a kickback to the club at the end of the year. Skagit is very willing to help out our 4-H programs by sponsoring events such as demonstration days (there is one on March 18th), advertising fundraising events and even selling fundraising items (such as the cookbook). They would like to help with jackets, and will sponsor the Round Robin belt buckle again this year. Jan suggested getting Grand Champion market animal jackets retroactively for 2015 fair.

Fair Board update: There was a lively discussion about the possibilities available to 4-H working with the fair board. The board seems to be very willing to work with 4-H on various projects such as barn improvements. There is a plan for a commercial kitchen addition to the Marie Boe building, and the board is seeking input about that. There is the question of codes, resources and permits for projects.

Horse barn projection: Nancy Ballman presented the work she has done to address the problem with the horse barn. She has a committee working on it and is working in conjunction with the fair board. The barn is in severe disrepair and needs to be replaced. There are many options as to how to go about this. Nancy's

concern is that a child or horse will be injured due to the condition of the barn. Options were discussed, including a hitching rail for saddling outside of the barn. Her hope is for a complete barn replacement (not possible for this year) and how the funds would be raised for the project. Making the barn a more multipurpose building (weddings?) might be possible. She has a structural engineer who has offered a free assessment of the barn. Bill Shaw voiced serious concern that if a structural engineer were to look at the barn, it would be condemned, which would be a terrible thing and might lead to other barns falling into that category. His hope is that any assessment would just lead to recommendations, such as rebuilding instead of repairing.

Pat BoyEs has retired, and her position will not be refilled. There are now regional specialists who will serve Western Washington 4-H programs. She will be missed.

Tom Schultz has also retired and his replacement should be announced soon, perhaps by February 1st.

Other business:

Bill Shaw has reiterated his wish for a really big county wide fundraiser. He would like to see a fundraiser that goes for big dollars. He is willing to bring his kitchen to the event. It needs a committee and needs to be planned.

Next meeting date is set for February 27th on Lopez. The LMAAC meeting will also take place on that day in the morning.