



## THURSTON COUNTY 4-H COUNCIL

### MEETING MINUTES

May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Virtual, Zoom

#### 4-H COUNCIL OFFICERS

Jenny Taylor, President  
Chris Swearingen, Vice President  
Molly Pestinger, Secretary  
Doreen Tudor-Bennett, Treasurer  
Lucas Swearingen, Teen Rep.

Meeting called to order by Jenny at 6:34 pm.

#### ATTENDANCE:

ATTENDEES
Molly Pestinger
Jenny Taylor
Christine Swearingen
Emily Killeen
Jill Kershaw
Lucas Swearingen
Heather Delaney
Crystal Hansen
Debbie Clarke
Juliana Venables
Cassie Tafoya

#### MINUTES (4/26/2021):

- Additions/corrections: None
- Motion to approve/second – Lucas/Debbie
- Motion to approve passes – unanimous approval

#### TREASURER'S REPORT (No Report)

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Horse Committee:** Leaders looking forward to start in person activities soon. The State Horse Bowl competition was held on May 8<sup>th</sup> and the Thurston County senior team got Reserve Champion.
- **Dog Committee:** Trying to get in person meetings scheduled. Trying to get ideas put together for Fair.
- **Peterson Barn Committee:** Next meeting will be May 27<sup>th</sup>
- **Teen Club/Know Your Government:** None
- **Shooting Sports Committee:** None

#### 4-H OFFICE REPORT

- The Fairboard voted on May 5<sup>th</sup> to recommend that we not have a fair open to the public. It will be a youth only fair open to 4-h and FFA youth. The county commissioners agreed that that would be the plan.
- So far WSU has not changed their policies. We are still limited to 15 youth and 2 volunteers. WSU is still not allowing families at 4-H activities. WSU has said to hold off submitting July in person proposals. WSU has continued to require students and staff to wear masks on their campus.
- Masks are still required at 4-H events.
- Leader trainings will be upcoming through the month of June. Watch email for Tuesday 4-H News. If you have parents that need to complete leader training, reach out to Kris and Emily at the tc4h@co.thurston.wa.us email.
- 6:30-7pm Covid training before Peterson barn meeting on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Watch for the Zoom link.

## OLD BUSINESS:

- Bylaw/Policy Updates:
  - The Bylaw/Policy Committee will report next month

## NEW BUSINESS:

- Thurston County Fair:
  - Emily met with the Fair coordinator last week. There are more meetings coming in case Covid requirement changes.
  - Teresa is requesting that projects hold events on fewer days. The hope is that the barns can be split up on different days. For example; rabbits on one day, caviies on another.
  - They would like to avoid keeping animals overnight. Emily will get more information about horses staying overnight.
  - The Fair is committed to providing a dumpster and judges. They will not provide shavings. The 4-H Council is still responsible for ribbons. The Fair will not be providing premiums for this year's fair. Jenny recommended that the different projects pursue donations to help cover premiums for the kids. Emily will look into the formula used to calculate premiums.
  - The dates are flexible, so we can use more weekends. Events can also be spread out over multiple weekends.
  - Saturday July 31<sup>st</sup> was supposed to be the market sale. They are thinking of going back to August 7<sup>th</sup>, the normal Saturday, so the market animals might need to do their classes that day. They posted on their FB page that they still don't know for sure the dates. Teresa is trying to set up a meeting with 4-H, FFA, and the market sale to get more information.
- It was expressed that there are concerns that people have already planned around the Fair dates that were given, changing things might be difficult for families.
- If parents want to attend the events, the current rules state they need to be enrolled 4-H volunteers and go through the Covid training.
- Vet checks will still be required
- Remember that Fair doesn't have to look like it usually does. The current understanding is that we don't need to have a county qualifying event for the state fair. The state fair will hopefully be coming out with their guidance soon. The days and classes can be structured differently this year. Flexibility will be key.
- Cassie brought up that there are shooting sports kids that will also like to be included in the fair planning. They might be able to participate off site. There would need to be a shooting sports superintendent for things to move forward.
- Emily will look into sending out a survey to families and also get more information from the superintendents before decisions are made.
- Horses and dogs will probably be able to be independent since they have separate areas. But in order for the large livestock animals and the small animals from the Peterson barn to coordinate schedules, Jenny recommended that the superintendents meet to discuss options.
- If anyone has ideas or suggestions for Emily, please email her at [tc4h@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:tc4h@co.thurston.wa.us)

Next meeting Monday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm Virtual Zoom Meeting

Meeting adjourned by Jenny at 7:54pm  
Submitted by Molly Pestinger, Secretary