Cowlitz County 4-H HORSE PROGRAM MEETING

***APRIL 28, 2020***

Held via ZOOM

Leaders and Members Present: Jessica and Morgan Harris; Paula Anderson; Gretchen Crites; Amy Applebury; Shirley Noble; Veronica Bjorhus; Pam Toney; Rhonda Jorgenson; Nora Willet; Janet Linden; Diana Berg; Lindsay Jones, Ramona Leber, and Jennifer Leach

* Introductions and share something fun or different
* Reviewed Zoom meeting etiquette—also on Cowlitz County 4-H website about how to sign up for Zoom and etiquette
* Met in February but no minutes presented from February meeting – Leach to send out; March meeting was cancelled
* Action Item: Treasurer’s report - Beginning balance $3,953.67 – No income or expenses to report for March or April – Ending balance $3,953.67 – Motion to approve by Veronica Bjorhus – second by Amy Applebury – motion passed
* Jennifer Leach advise there is still no face to face until June 19 in line with school closures.
* As of today, the Cowlitz County Fair is still happening. It may not look the same but continue to plan.
* No decision on 4-H State Fair---need to wait on decision of Washington State Fair
* Jennifer Leach will contact our judges.
* Scrabble Scramble – decision to go ahead if possible and priority over HAR. Will be easier to manage social distancing. Date TBA when fairgrounds available and Jessica and Morgan available and when the state 4-H says we can move forward. Maybe use Rodeo Arena. Limited Expo Center staff—so we need to get area ready ourselves. Possible to use Castle Rock? Hold clinics at the same time?
* Horse Around – Cancel this year. Will be difficult to manage social distancing. But was suggested to maybe have it later??
* Skills Checklist – for first year members only this year. To show they can ride and control their horse. Same for jumping and driving. Safety first. Include first time bareback riders and walk/trot to canter riders.
* Virtual Shows—explained concept of showcasing what kids have learned
* Virtual Horse Judging – We could design our own forms on Google forms. Donna Longacre said she would supply the pictures and Veronica Bjohus volunteered to do the scoring. Lindsey Jones would like to help. More detail later. There are also virtual horse judging contests available from other counties
* Virtual Demonstrations – Jennifer Leach said she would take leadership to see how other counties are doing this.
* Educational videos – Our state does not have any. And state curriculum is not designed for learning at home and virtually. State Equine committee has identified that as a gap.
* Encourage 4-H Seniors to make a video. Jumping, Gaming, Dressage etc. Maybe have a video contest.
* Can also do practice at home, tape it, and send to leader or experienced clinician for review and help. Klickitat County is doing this.Can upload to You Tube—private channel
* Also can do educational quizzes using 4-H project materials via virtual platforms such as Quizlet; Kahoot; or Factile
* Great time to work on Advancement program at family level and work on step 1. Then once “face to face”….start working on the other steps
* Encourage leaders and members to come up with virtual events to share with the group.
* Visit with youth about ideas for education and send to Jennifer
* Also talked about the value of the horse and animal bonding—share stories or impact of horse and member bonding to Jennifer
* Meeting was recorded…but difficult to upload the recording for record keeping

Next meeting – May 26 – Not a mandatory meeting – 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Youth meeting – 6:30 pm—both meetings were cancelled

Notes from this April meeting done by J.Leach from recording. Approved at June 23, 2020 horse committee meeting.