

February 23, 2021 Leaders Council Meeting held at Sheriff's Complex

The meeting was called to order by President Sonja Gregory. Minutes from the November 22, 2020 meeting were read and approved. (Corry Arntzen/Chris England.) A note from the Gavel Games team, consisting of Morgan Ward, Cassandra Cox, Raya Carlson, and Cody England, thanking Leaders Council for the money given for their Denver trip was read. A note was read from Cassie Smith, requesting the Scholarship Committee to send her the money she was awarded as she has completed her first semester at MSU. Jennifer Saunders stated this request has been granted.

The treasurer's report was presented and the budget was reviewed. There were several questions regarding the report which need to be clarified. A motion to table accepting the treasurer's report to the next meeting when Stacie is available to answer questions was passed. (Chris England/Yvette Hersel)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Shooting Sports Leaders Training will be available April 9-10 in Billings, April 16-17 in Bozeman, and April 23-24 in Kalispell. Any leader interested in completing training in any of the disciplines (Rifle, Pistol, Archery, Shotgun, Hunting, Muzzle-loading) need to get signed up. Fees and travel expenses will be reimbursed.

2 spots open in the Youth Mental Health First Aid Class. Any interested leader can contact Jennifer.

Sarah Hodgekiss will be starting as an Extension Agent (4-H & FCS) in the office in mid April.

County Public Speaking Day and Gavel Games will be March 28, 2021. Registration is due March 12.

REPORTS:

Ambassador: Chris England reported the Ambassador team is working on organizing Farm Safety Day, Traveling Farm, a Mental Health Panel, and other ideas for upcoming events. They have completed the virtual Leadership Training and are currently working with the members 12 and older virtual leadership training. Watch the newsletter for information relating to the Toiletry Drive and other upcoming events.

Foundation: Yvette Hersel reported the Foundation calendar are available with raffle tickets on the back.

State Leaders Council: Jennifer Saunders stated there is no report as State Leaders Council has been very inactive the last year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Livestock: Jennifer reported the Livestock Committee has rearranged the fair schedule. She has requested the ultrasound and sale photo schedule date be determined so members can be confident in their Food Booth sign up times.

Yvette reported that grand and reserve champions are now allowed to sell a second species as well as their champion animal.

Small Animal: Chris England stated the fair schedule was reviewed as well as fair book wording. The Pocket Pet wording was changed to now state "Up to 3 different animals", striking the words "only one entry per lot". Nicole Tholt has submitted a grant to purchase more dog agility equipment. Nicole will be reviewing the levels of difficulty in the dog agility course and will modify them accordingly. Nicole and Quincy will be scheduling dog obedience clinics.

It was decided to allow the grand and reserve market rabbit and poultry winners to sell a large animal as well.

Officers of the Small Animal committee were elected. Cody England as chair, Chris England as vice chair, and Cassandra Cox as secretary.

The Spring Showmanship Clinic will be Monday June 7, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at Horizon Vet

Small Animal Barn Clean and Set up Day is scheduled for June 10th.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 7th, 2021, immediately following the Showmanship Clinic

Miscellaneous/FCS: Jennifer reported there will be project workshops instead of a Super Saturday.

Project days for sewing, photography, leather, woodworking, and cooking are being organized. Watch the newsletter for more information.

An auction at fair for indoor projects was discussed. A committee consisting of Yvette Hersel, Chris England, and Michelle Farley was established.

Outdoor Project Day at East Fork will be June 12, 2021. Archery, Air Rifle, Western Heritage, Range/Weed Science, Aerospace, Fishing, Outdoor Adventures, and Dutch Oven cooking activities will be scheduled.

Awards: Jennifer stated the Awards Committee met and discussed the current awards structure, 2020 fair awards presented and expenditures. The awards structure and budget for 2021 was discussed and new rosettes were voted on. A discussion was held which reviewed the sponsor form used by the Horse committee, defining a consistent practice that complies with the guidelines for handling 4-H money and ensuring accurate financial records, ensuring the accurate and timely tracking of donors to provide receipts and recognition, and to ensure timely payments for awards. Jennifer will be ordering new rosettes.

Horse: Yvette stated the Horse Committee received a grant last year for clinics that they weren't able to use due to COVID. Clinics will be offered this year.

April 17, 2021 - Basic Horsemanship (starting before your horse is even saddled)

April 18, 2021 - Performance Horse

April 24, 2021 - Ranch Horse

**There is a \$10 fee for members without a riding membership at the fairgrounds. There is no cost for members with a riding membership at the fairgrounds.

Clinics are open to all 4-H members to watch however a member **must be enrolled in a horse project to participate.

Yvette also stated that each Horse project member is required to get \$50 in sponsorships. Any horse member that gets more than \$100 in sponsorships gets entered in a drawing for a gift card.

Food Booth: Yvette stated that she and Mindy Henderson will be managing the Food Booth again this year. The Food Booth will be open and kids will be allowed to work this year. There will be less kids working each shift than in past years. The prior to opening work day and clean up day will be actual shifts. Sign up for shifts will be done online and will be available May 1st. All Food Booth shifts will be contingent upon current COVID restrictions.

Yvette stated there is construction which needs to be done prior to moving in the new cooler. There are several other projects which need to be done to improve the Food Booth; there is money in the account to purchase the materials.

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Jennifer stated there are 12-15 members that are currently meeting once a month to participate in the Leadership Academy.

OLD BUSINESS

There will be an Indoor Projects Auction at fair this year. The Intent to Sell form was reviewed. The committee consists of Yvette Hersel, Chris England, and Michelle Farley. They will meet Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 5:00 at the Extension Office.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion to accept the requests from the leaders attending the shooting sports leaders training sessions this spring passed. (Jeremy England/Yvette Hersel) The Leaders Ed fund will pay the \$60 registration fee, fuel, and one night in a motel.

A motion for the Leaders Ed Fund to cover the \$20 book fee for the leaders registered for the Youth Mental Health First Aid course passed. (Chris England/Michelle Farley)

Jennifer stated ZSuite was unable to complete their fair entry program resulting in the need to either use Fair Entry, the program used last year, with a \$500.00 yearly fee or revert back to all paper forms. A motion to use Fair Entry passed. (Jeremy England/Michelle Farley)

A discussion was held regarding what scholarships the Leaders Council should offer to graduating seniors was held. Jennifer stated last year two \$200 scholarships were offered however this year there are more seniors. The scholarship account balance was reviewed. A motion to award three \$200 scholarships passed. (Yvette Hersel/Jeremy England)

Leaders Council and Exchange year end financial reports were given to leaders to review for accuracy. Michelle Farley took possession of the Leaders Council report. She will review and pass on to Chris England. Sonja Gregory took possession of the Exchange report. She will review and pass it on to Corry Arntzen. The reports will be returned to the Extension office as soon as possible.

A representative from the Indoor Project Auction committee will need to attend the next fair board meeting to discuss the location of the auction. The decision will be made at the March 3 meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the Sheriff's Complex

Meeting Adjourned (Chris England/Yvette Hersel)

MEETING ATTENDEES:

- **Sonja Gregory
- **Davey Storfa
- **Michelle Farley
- **Jennifer Saunders
- **Yvette Hersel
- **Chris England
- **Jeremy England
- **Corry Arntzen