



4-H Association Meeting – 3/21/2023

Mid-Year Leader's Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

Introductions and Club updates.

- Nokesville Equestrian club. Tracy Wysong talked about several events coming up, such as the State Horse show, Regionals in Georgia, and EqiSmarts.
- Trigger Time. Alan Lerch and Jim Strand (adults) and Noah Richter and Sam Seagle (teens) gave the report. Their club is growing both individually and as a club. Momentum! They are thinking about getting into new categories to compete in. Every weekend is filled, many leagues, American legion matches, etc. There are at least two dozen of them coming up. They have about 50 4-Hers on the roster, over 30 at the last meeting. They have three different training areas occupied on a Monday.
- Kettle Run 4-H Club. Ben and Julia (teens) gave the report. They are mainly a service-based club. They donated equipment and wrote cards and sent care packages to organizations including overseas soldiers. This week they're doing a trash pickup on Saturday and will also do a Tunnels to Tower Run (in honor of first responders who died on 9-11).
- Nokesville 4-H. Katie Saul gave the report. They recently completed a service project for a dog shelter. Next meeting: making seed cups for retirement home. Outdoor project coming up: fishing, kayaking, and hiking. They are also doing the embryology project, and the chicks should be hatching on Saturday!
- MaryBeth Lerch: mentioned that the office staff is here to support the clubs. Told inspiring story about appreciating the moment even in the midst of the storm, because this is the only moment we're guaranteed, and we WILL get through the storm.
- Susan Wolf explained what the Association is and does. Basically, it is a nonprofit organization that handles funding. We are a 501c3.

Secretary Report. Mary McDonald read the minutes from the last meeting. Mrs. Lerch added a clarification: Quilt Day occurred after Recognition Day (the quilts were just displayed on Recognition Day). Report was approved after correction.

Treasurer's Report. Sydney Nguyen gave the report. Summary: \$57,804.86 year end holding through 6/30/22. Current total holdings: \$59,263.85 (further details in written report submitted). \$16,404 in restricted dollars (have to be used for a specified purpose such as college scholarships, fair camp, etc). May move more \$ to Virginia National Bank because of higher interest rates. Funds can be transferred from one club to another (answer to Mr. Lerch's question). So, we can help stand up a new club! Traditionally, \$25 given (but maybe increase or get them specific things). These are the funds that support our PWC programs (camp, contests etc.) The budget meeting occurs during the Summer, and the budget committee meets at that time: they decide the allocation of funds. Report was approved.

Committee Reports.

Fund Raising Committee. Samantha Wysong presented several ideas.

- Bingo night was very popular in 2020 (was supposed to be in-person ended up being held virtually). And we still have all the supplies! Prizes: all clubs created gift baskets with themes such as movie night, game night, etc. She got donations from some businesses as well. Nokesville Fire House doesn't charge but is limited to about 75 people. Another idea: Buckhall Fire Dept can probably hold over 100 people (held spaghetti dinner there). Idea: maybe do back to school bingo in the Fall!
- Chic Fil A and Crumbl Cookies (4 cookies = \$17) are easy to do. We just hand out flyers.
- Pottery Fundraiser (pick up pottery sets, painted them). Pottery place was in Manassas.

- Candles. Sam designed label and picked out a scent; after that it was all online. There is also the option to pick up a box of them and sell them in person.
- County Fair concessions (big fundraiser, ~\$1600)
- 5-K Run (big fundraiser, ~\$2600)
- Hot shack (BBQ) near Fairgrounds is willing to support us. Trigger Time will see them this weekend and will follow up. Maybe they can come to Bingo Night in addition to other ideas.
- Movie night (big blow-up movie screen), grill out and charge fee.
- For future: Easter egg delivery and hide them, “flamingo” people’s yards, paint night.

The President suggested having a fund-raising committee meeting in the next month or so to follow up. Samantha Wysong agreed to attend and help coach the next generation of fundraisers.

Wreaths Across America. We are already signed up. We need to do a better job of promoting this. MaryBeth Lerch mentioned that the website has improved. We get \$5 for every wreath sold (dollars are split between Association and Clubs), and then we also attend the ceremony as a group (Quantico or Arlington).

Auction. Things we can auction: 2 lap quilts, crochet blanket, plus smaller quilted items.

We still have the online auction possibility, plus there are some in-person events we could attend, e.g., the Nokesville Day is in May (but Mrs. Wysong noted that it happens very quickly). Other ideas: County Fair is 9 days long, maybe set it up in the Children’s Barn? Can also give bigger items to clubs and have them auction it. Some discussion about electronic payment, most charge a fee, e.g., 3%, so we might consider charging a bit more as a convenience fee for accepting electronic payment.

Recognition Committee.

Trigger Time gives two special awards/scholarships and suggested recognizing them at Recognition Day. We can do a silent auction there (but might not be a big fundraiser). The committee will continue to work on ideas.

Old Business:

- PWC Spring Picnic. We could rent a pavilion and do a potluck (Association provides burgers and dogs). Mr. Strand mentioned the lake in Fauquier County (paddle boats) as an option. Mrs. Lerch suggested tabling this idea for now. We’re kind of small right now and we’re already in the Spring, but let’s keep it on the agenda.
- Engage Locally was a success. Wonderful engagement between County reps and teens, great to see what the other clubs are doing! Young entrepreneurs had wonderful display of items. We are planning to do next year, as a logical follow on to 4-H Day at the Capitol. Pam also received positive feedback from the County attendees.

New Business:

- Community Events. President mentioned Haymarket Day: we could have a booth there! Shelter’s Save Animals Day, generally just keep a lookout for opportunities and let her or Mrs. Lerch know. Encourage our clubs to get involved. There may be a Summer parade we can be a part of.
- Tractor Supply Day. April 26. Encourage Clubs to participate. Can sell hot dogs, baked good, other.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55.

Next meeting: Date TBD but in the Fall, possibly in conjunction with a “retreat.”