

4-H Council Meeting Minutes  
May 15, 2012

The meeting was called to order @ 7pm.

Those in attendance were:

Sandy Arnold-Nokesville 4-H  
Charolotte Ferree- 4-H Alumni  
Anna Grace Jensen – 4-H Footprints  
Linda King- Extension Agent, 4-H  
Kathy Kolwicz-Nokesville 4-H  
Megan Kolwicz-Nokesville 4-H  
MaryBeth Lerch – 4-H Youth Educator  
Terry McCarty – Council Member  
Scrib Mockler – Council Member  
Jean Mockler – Council Member  
Sydney Nguyen- Nokesville 4-H and Treasurer in training  
Vania Root – Pins and Patterns  
Catherine Root – Pins and Patterns  
Becky Scanlon- 4-H Alumni  
Maria Seaberg- Alpaca 4-H Club  
Suzanne Seaberg– 4-H Footprints and Alpaca 4-H Club  
Leslie-Ann Stevens-Council Member and Treasurer  
Ron Smith – Trigger Time 4-H  
Marcia Thies-S.A.L.T.  
Donna Weisheit-Council Member and All-Star

Leslie-Ann Stevens announced that she will vacate her position as of 6/30/2012. She will continue to tract awards for Trigger Time, and will continue to judge portfolios.

Linda moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.  
The minutes were approved by all in attendance.

#### Committee Reports

Sydney read the treasurer's report and explained that there are two funds represented in the report. She explained that the PW 4-H Fund includes fundraiser profits and the VCE Fund is for all program expenses.

Publicity Committee-Terry had nothing new from the; however, Linda noted that a reported from the Bull Run Observer came to the office to interview several families that had participated in the Embryology project. The article was expected to come out soon.

Suzanne brought up the fact that her club has a Facebook page and wondered how she could get more people to Like it. It was suggested that the 4-H Office publicize all of the club's Facebook pages.

Recognition and Awards -Leslie-Ann announce that she will soon be sending out an email regarding due dates for project records and portfolios as well as applications for the Johanna Guhl Scholarship.

Linda mentioned that we hope to do another Flower Power fundraiser in the fall and also another Chick-Fil-A fundraising night.

### Program Report

Shooting Sports Training -Ron reported that the county recently hosted a trainer for new shooting sports instructors from across the state. Instructors to support a new shooting sports club in the county were also trained.

Linda thanked Ron for all that he has done to support the new leaders/instructors with the start up of the new shooting sports club.

Presentation Day-Linda reported that we had approximately 50 youth participate in this event. Extemporaneous Speech and Radio Spot were among the new categories offered. We had an excellent slate of judges including Delegate Richard Anderson and his wife Ruth, Ryan Galloway, Assistant to Delegate Anderson. We had various club leaders, community leaders, 4-H Alumni and 4-H parents/grandparents all donate their time to judge our youth in their public speaking skills.

Fashion Review- The event was held at Potomac Place in Woodbridge. Donna reported that we had 13 participants all in the Category 1/Original Construction category. There was one teen who acted as the narrator during the fashion show portion. Some of the youth participants entertained the residents during meal time by playing a musical instrument. The youth were also encouraged to "interview" some of the residents to encourage dialogue between the generations. Again, there were amazing volunteer judges-one even flew in from Florida just to judge! There were several "guest" judges as well. These were residents of Potomac Place who volunteered to help with the judging. After all of the participant were judged, they put on a fashion show for the residents to display their work. All 13 of the girls earned a blue ribbon for their projects. After the fashion show, several of the youth performed their "Share-The-Fun" skit which was titled "The Twelve Days of Sewing". Ruby Dunn played her harp during refreshments.

Northern District Contest- Linda reported that we had 20 youth participate in the Northern District Contest. Categories included: Share-the-Fun, Presentations, Film/Video and Fashion Review. Sandy Arnold shared that she was a judge for the Extemporaneous Speech Category and had a wonderful experience. She encouraged all in attendance to try judging at an event such as this.

Embryology-Marcia shared her experiences with S.A.L.T 4-H. Chicken eggs were donated by Smith Family Farm. Duck eggs were donated from another source. Duck eggs had 100% hatch rate. Chicken eggs had a much lower hatch rate.

In-School Programming- Linda reported that Middle School kits have been sent out and the teachers have been trained. We now have programming in all PW County, Manassas City, and Manassas Park schools as well as in programs with Parks and Rec.

Junior and Fair Camps- Linda reported that Fair Camp filling in 2hrs and 15 minutes and now has a waiting list. Junior Camp still has some openings.

PWC Fair-4-H will again be a big presence at the fair. The area in front of the Children's Barn will be available for our use-the fire trucks and ambulances will be moved out of this area. The "Agri -Culture" Barn will be sponsored by Prince William Soil and Water and will host a 4-H display area as we had in the tractor barn last year.

### New Clubs

Robotics-Trainers from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, trained approximately 20-25 people from PW, Fairfax and Arlington Counties. Prince William will have approximately 12 leaders trained to teach the curriculum. With money from a grant through Lockheed Martin, PW 4-H has purchased approximately \$6,000 worth of equipment including computers, Legos robotics kits, Vex Robotics kits, National Robotics Curriculum and Junk Drawer Robotics Curriculum. Blake Ross who leads the 4-H Robotics club has taken a lead roll in determining the equipment needs and facilitating the purchase. Our county will introduce robotics to 40 new youth using this equipment.

Dog Club-two new leaders have been trained and have a large group of youth ready to enroll.

State Congress- Congress dates are June 25-28<sup>th</sup>, 2012. PW has 11 youth and 3 adults attending. Michelle Leporatti from Prince William County is the Northern District Ambassador. Kipp Dunn, Marissa Lykens, Nicolas Poole, and Ryan Thies are the youth who will be tapped as All-Stars this year. Alisa Lykens, Walt Peterman, and Lee Turner are the adult volunteers who will be tapped this year.

### Club Reports

**Nokesville 4-H Club**-Sandy Arnold reported that the club recently collected items to fill shoe boxes full of necessity items, such as shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste. These kits were taken to the United Way who will distribute them to older Americans, soldiers, and shelters. Several members also volunteered to help with the Tractor Supply grand opening event.

**Nokesville Horse Club**-Sandy reported that the horse club has been busy with contests. At Equismartz-the state knowledge contest, they had many successes with Libby Arnold winning the overall Junior Division! The Horse Bowl team finished 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 12 teams with two of the team members being only 9 yrs. old and first time participants!

**Footprints 4-H**- AnnaGrace Jensen reported for the club.

“.....I represent the 4-H Footprints club at Mayfield Intermediate School. We are a community service based club, learning about the responsibilities of citizenship. Today I would like to give you an update on all things at Mayfield. Some of the activities we have done include; adopting a street and cleaning it and gathering supplies for soldiers. We had some of our 4-H members help at Share The Fun at Jennie Dean Elementary School which was a talent show, and we volunteered at the Boys and Girls Club Turkey Trot last fall. We also helped at the Shamrock Run at Georg C. Round Elementary this Spring. We do plenty of other things like keeping our school grounds free of litter and team building activities. We have made cards for nursing homes. We have enjoyed doing all these activities and have learned so much from them it really was an experience worth participating in. After all, we work for making the best better!”

**Alpaca 4-H Club**- Maria Seaberg reported for the club.

“....We are a new and growing club that meets at Double O’Good Farm in Gainesville, VA. We have 5 members, and several more that want to join but haven’t turned in their paperwork. We have a Facebook Page. Check out our pictures and stories! We are learning about alpacas and getting to know our way around the Farm. We generally meet once a month on Sunday afternoons. We have partnered with some Maryland 4-Hers that raise alpacas and they have been wonderful mentors. I have been working with one Alpaca named “Royal Copenhagen” or Copey, for short. We have participated in 2 show in the sub-Junior division; The Virginia Classic in Lexington, VA and MAPACA Jubilee in Harrisburg, PA. Some events that I competed in were Showmanship, Obstacle Course, and PR(Public relations). I look forward to working with a new alpaca this Fall and participating in more shows.

Our club families helped during the shearing process which is a 4 day event at the farm. We ran the gate, helped move the animals, loaded and unloaded the van with bags of fiber. We also helped with feeding crias (those are baby alpacas) because work doesn’t stop at the farm. For summer, we are planning a trip to a fiber mill to see how it is processed and a family picnic at the farm. In the Fall, we are planning to formalize our leasing plan, open a bank account, implement a regular program for training and working with our assigned alpacas. We are collecting supplies for obstacle courses, preparing for alpaca shows. Mostly, we like working hands on with the animals, but have met some wonderful people in the meantime”

**Pins & Patterns**-Catherine Root reported for the club. 6 members competed at the Northern District Contest. All members earned a blue ribbon and 3 earned a purple ribbon. The club recently volunteered at the Arts Alive event and helped visitors create a make-n-take craft of pinwheels that could be used as a hairclip and bracelets out of thread.

**S.A.L.T. 4-H**-Marcia Thies reported for the club. 6 members recently competed at the Northern District Contest. The club has completed been working on a sewing project and has several male members learning to sew! The Archery project has resumed as the club now has trained archery instructors. The club had to receive permission from the church (Buckhall United Methodist) to be able to shoot on the premises. Club members have hatched chicks and for the first time, ducks. Members are also participating in a Photography/Media project and learning to make movies from picture slides and add music.

**Green Club**-Suzanne Seaberg reported as an advisor to the club. Jennie Dean Elementary school teachers have embraced the teaching garden that the club has built on the school grounds. The club has taken an abandoned courtyard and turned it into a flourishing garden. With a grant from Lowes, the school has provided further equipment to furnish an outdoor classroom. The school teachers have incorporated lesson taught in the outdoor learning environment into the curriculum for each grade level.

**Haymarket Club**- Linda King reported that the club is working with Silver Lake park to create a butterfly garden.

**Teen Council**- Alisa Lykens reported for the club via email.

“I wanted to share with you and the council about what our club has been doing at the Quarry Senior Apartments in Manassas ..

On March 17, 2012, our club was invited to join Buckhall Methodist Church in attending a St. Patricks Day party with the residents. There were about 20+ residents in attendance. We helped serve treats, played themed games, and had quite pleasant conversations with the residents and those attending the party. Because we had such great interest in our club by the residents, we were asked to come back and visit again. We found out the center had a Wii game station, but nobody used it in the common room. So last month (April) we returned and had around 7 club members play bowling with around 6-8 residents. It was a lot of fun! And we made some new friends who returned to see us when we came back this past Saturday. We played a few different games (tennis, boxing) and the residents asked us to come back and bring the JUST DANCE game. So we're planning on coming back in June to add more fun and games to include dancing with the residents. We have certainly made a bond with this center, and I can see us doing more with them next year.”

Trigger Time 4-H – Ron Smith reported for the club. Trigger Time was invited to the State Air Rifle Match. Over the past 6 yrs. that the club has participated in this event, scores have steadily improved. This year, the team finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall. One youth, Jenna Fees, finished in 8<sup>th</sup> place which earned her a spot in the “shoot off” with the top 8 shooters at the event. She finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in this round and earned a 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall finish.

20-25 club members recently volunteered to assist the Girl Scouts in an “archery experience” at Camp Snyder. Approximately 100 Girl Scouts participated in the event. It was a rewarding day for all.

### Old Business

The council needs a full slate of officers. Please pass on any recommendations to Linda King.

### New Business

Leslie-Ann made a motion to change the name of 4-H Council back to 4-H Advisory Council.

Discussion-Sandy said that the reason for the name change was to encourage participation. It was believed that *Advisory* may have discouraged members from coming to the meeting because they felt they had to be a member, or belong to the group. This did not give the idea of an open forum. Terry McCarty mentioned that the purpose of the Council was to *advise* clubs about what 4-H should be to the community. Kathy Kolwicz added that she didn't know what to expect this being her first meeting. However, she thinks it is a good thing.

The motion was seconded by Terry.

The motion passed and the name will be changed back to 4-H Advisory Council.

The remainder of the meeting was regarding the status of 4-H TRS tax exempt status. Linda reported on the State announcement the umbrella status for tax exemption will not longer exist. Our options are: Local Agency Fund with UAA administering or using Virginia Tech Foundation to handle club monies.

The option that Linda proposes, is for the 4-H Council to act as the administrator for the 501(c)3 organization. Donna Weiseit offered to take the lead on filling out the forms to for the IRS application. We will need to know what the liability of the officers will be and should they be bonded?

Until officers are in place, we can not proceed. It was a new meeting should be scheduled when more information is available so that we can proceed.

Meeting was adjourned @ 8:45pm.

This was the last meeting scheduled 2011-2012 4-H Year.

A meeting will be scheduled to discuss the IRS tax exempt status at a later date.