



Seniors' Council of Douglas County

April 4, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Colorado Agricultural Leadership Foundation's (CALF)

Lowell Ranch in Castle Rock

Meeting started: 10:02 a.m.

Meeting ended: 11:15 a.m.

No. of attendees: 31 attendees

Executive Committee Members: Gretchen Lopez, Valerie Robson, Tiffany Curtin, Jean Spahr, Mary Cates

County reps: Jennifer D'Ambrosio, Kim Smith

Presenter: Brooke Fox, CEO of CALF

Opening Remarks

- Gretchen welcomed attendees and thanked the CALF Lowell Ranch for hosting the meeting.
- She introduced the leadership team members to the group.
- Gretchen encouraged attendees to sign up for the Seniors' Council's electronic newsletter, First Friday Update and reviewed several upcoming events hosted by other organizations.

Announcements

- SCDC is developing a new model of an integrated leadership team.
 - Attendees will see more of each of the leadership team members as we share our public responsibilities, such as leading the monthly meetings.
 - We will also be adding new opportunities to get involved over the next few months including promoting the Seniors' Council to the community, event planning, program development, etc.
- Gretchen introduced Education Chair, Tiffany Curtin who shared information about upcoming presentations and library activities followed by introducing Brooke Fox.

Presentation: "Exploring CALF and Lowell Ranch"

- The Colorado Agricultural Leadership Foundation (CALF) is dedicated to connecting all people to agriculture through educational programs, community projects, leadership development and volunteer opportunities.

- Educational programs include field trips incorporating hands-on experiences in alignment with state and local academic standards, a vibrant beekeeping community and Camp CALF.
- Camp CALF, a summertime program, is open to kids entering 3rd through 7th grade, with a companion leadership program for 8th graders.
- Lowell Ranch was originally homesteaded in 1878.
- Henry and Maude Lowell came to the ranch in 1906 and members of the family have occupied and owned the ranch since then.
- John Lowell was born on the ranch and followed the family tradition of cattle ranching. Later on, he also started raising and showing sheep.
- John and his wife Bea were strong supporters of 4-H and other youth activities.
- In 2002, they created CALF to promote agricultural education and community involvement.
- In 2010, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners designated the Lowell Ranch as a historic landmark.
- More volunteers are welcome to join the CALF family.

Closing Remarks

- Gretchen thanked Brooke for her informative presentation and invited participants to enjoy a tour of the ranch for a personal interaction with the animals.
- She closed the presentation part of the meeting at 11:15 a.m.