University of Illinois Extension – Unit 21

Extension Council Meeting

January 30, 2023 via Zoom

Attendees – Carl Baker, Kasey Kemme, Michelle Fombelle, Cleo McManaway, Barb McGrew, Norbert Soltwedel, Jennifer Jones, Samantha Weidener, Jason Warfel, and Ben Frazier.

Public Comment – None

September Meeting Notes

* We met to approve meeting minutes from May in order to get names on the signature cards.

Old Business

* Truth and Consequences – put on hold for the time being due to other things we are having to take care of from campus.

New Business

* Needs Assessments – taking place across the state, staff will be reaching out to community stakeholders for a quick interview to evaluate the needs of the communities. At this time, stakeholders will also have the opportunity to share what types of programs they believe we need.
  + Hopeful to be completing this starting in March
  + Must have turned into campus by November
* Staffing Footprint
  + Clay – background check is currently being completed on a full-time office support person. Hoping for a February 6 start date. Since our last meetings, a full-time 4-H Program Coordinator has started, Megan.
  + Fayette – We currently have an 80% 4-H EPC, Olivia. Background check has been sent in for a SNAP-ED community worker.
* Broadband – working with county board and Farm Bureau to bring broadband to rural areas. There will be a meeting on February 3 in order to gain more information for those in the communities they are trying to reach. Barb will be checking to see if there is someone to represent Clay County for that meeting and will get that name to Carl.
  + Underserved connectivity vs unserved connectivity
* Program Updates
  + 4-H
  + SNAP-Ed
  + Horticulture
  + Watershed Outreach