

Unit 22 Extension Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 11th, 2021 (Virtual)

The meeting was called to order at 6:41pm by Brian Mueller – President

Members Present: Gary Green, Amy Kolweier, Adam Mestemacher, Brian Mueller, Raeleen Neary, Emelie Nilges, Rosemary Dorsey, and Chelsey Ammann.

Youth Present: Claire Dorsey

Staff Member Present: Amy Cope

The February meeting minutes were reviewed by all. Gary G. made the motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Rosemary D.. Motion carried, a vote was taken, all ayes.

- Youth Report
 - Claire D. presented on how her club has been staying busy this spring. She mentioned many gardening activities along with upcoming in-person summer and fall shows that they are looking forward to.

- Programming Report
 - Amy C. provided many flyers for current and upcoming events.
 - Our packets included: Garden Tours, Monroe County Famers Market, Online Master Gardener Training, Four Seasons Webinar Series, Color of Autumn, Youth Cooking Schools, and Youth Science Camps.
 - Some of the in-person events are already at 90% capacity which is good news for other events in the future. This shows that people are wanting to participate in those in-person events.
 - Monroe County Farmers Market has a new location and it seems to be improving attendance and participation.
 - Amy C. mentioned that campus continues to keep an eye on the Covid-19 situation and how others are beginning to open up to more in-person activities.

- Financial
 - Amy C. informed the council the financial statement are looking as expected. The new updated layout of the budget should make things easier to understand for the council.
 - We have not received the final state match dollars for 2020 and have yet to see any 2021 state match. Amy hopes to see the final 2020 dollars soon.
 - The SIUE Grant ends March 31st, 2022.
 - The IL Specialty Tomatoes Grant ends October of this year.

- Amy C. met with a representative of the Madison County Review Board.
 - o The meeting was to show how extension was using their \$50,000 gift. Amy explained how extension brings in \$600,000 into Madison County and also has almost \$150,000 in donated time in just the Master Gardener program.
 - o Their representative asked why extension isn't spending more time in low income areas in Madison County. Amy explained that volunteers typically don't come from those areas so it's hard to reach them.
 - o They hoped that extension could work with the Madison County Community Involvement organization to help get grants that neither organization could receive on their own, but maybe partnered would be able to get.
 - o Discussion was had among the council regarding how to get St. Clair County to fund extension to show Madison County why extension is still in St. Clair County even without St. Clair County funding the extension program.

- Facilities Report
 - Amy C. discussed the termination of the Collinsville lease due to the building being sold. The lease now is a month to month basis starting July 1st and can remain that way for up to 6 months before they must be out.
 - o That space is approximately 6,000 sq/ft and houses 20 staff members.

- Staffing
 - Many positions have been filled that were vacant.
 - o EFNEP in ESL, 4-H in Collinsville, SNAP-ED Community Worker in Collinsville, SNAP-ED EPC in Collinsville, and an Academic Hourly position in Waterloo.
 - Amy C. brought to attention the possibility of turning the part-time Marketing position into a full-time Marketing and Grant Writing position. Everyone on council discussed this concept and all thought it was a great idea. Amy C. already has this position in next year's budget.

- Business
 - Amy C. reviewed the budget with the council. As of right now, the budget is balanced.
 - Discussion was had about reducing the funds in the Trust account to help campus understand this extension needs help in some areas of funding. With a high Trust account, campus does not seem eager to step in and help.
 - Many line items were discussed including payroll, non-payroll, and rent.
 - Amy C. said this unit is still looking for a Monroe County council member to fill a void. She will also be attempting one last time to reach council members who have not been at recent meetings without giving notice. Brian M. suggested making a guideline if there isn't one already about how many meetings you are able to miss before being replaced as a council member.
 - Amy C. mentioned using Amazon Smile or Schnucks rewards to help with Foundation support.
 - Many fundraisers are looking to begin in-person events soon.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Aug 24th, 2021 at 6:30p.m.

Location: Collinsville and possibly Zoom.

Adam M. made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Raeleen N.. Motion carried, vote was taken, all ayes.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:31 p.m.