

MINUTES

University of Illinois Extension Council Meeting – Henry, Mercer, Rock Island, and Stark Counties
Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at Woodhull Town Hall or via Zoom.

Roll Call:

Present: Catherine Bass, John Bowser, Barb Chiles, Dave Dyer, Logan Goerks, Megan Gray,
Emily Herricks, Janet Hill, Jill Milroy, Tara Mayhew, Bob Mueller, Nicholas Shillington
Others Present: Jenny Garner, Emily Swihart

Public Comments: Not Applicable.

Educational Session: Horticulture educator Emily Swihart present information on trees and the four different services they provide for us: infrastructure, health, safety, and ecology. As more land is consumed by development, there is less plant material on the landscape. The way we can offset that is through trees as part of our landscape. Trees help boost our immune system and studies have shown that access to green spaces increases attention span, reduces blood pressure, reduces stress, and recovery from surgeries and injury. Street trees help lower vehicle speeds. Trees are part of the natural ecosystem and our urban setting.

Previous Minutes:

- The minutes of the last meeting on August 16, 2022, were approved as read on a motion by Barb Chiles and seconded by Tara Mayhew. Motion Carried.

Fiscal Report:

- The Unit 7 Trust and Self-Supporting accounts ending September 30, 2022, were provided for review. Allowable expenses are currently coming out of the unit's Smith Lever federal allocation.
- Balances of the Henry/Stark, Mercer, and Rock Island in-and-out accounts (checking) were provided to the Council.

Council Report:

- Bob Mueller said that council member Logan Goerks has been very active in volunteering at the new high school in Stark County. The Lion's Club in Toulon recently toured the new high school; Logan and his FFA club was involved with putting on those tours. Logan reported that they hope to accomplish considerable work in the community this coming year.
- Dave Dyer complimented Emily Swihart on her educational presentation.

Staff Programming Information:

- Bob Mueller invited the Council to review staff reports that covers the broad spectrum of working being done by Extension unit staff.
- Unit staff were involved in a community poverty simulation this morning at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport. Russell Medley is trained to provide these poverty simulations.
- Unit staff were involved in hosting Hunger Action Day in late September to promote the important of culturally nutritious foods and food dignity. People were invited to make food or monetary donations to support people in need of assistance at local food banks, and walks were

held at the City of Galva's Veteran Park (across from the Henry/Stark Extension office) and at Singing Bird Lodge in Rock Island.

Announcements:

- New building signs with the correct logo have been installed at all three offices. Production is underway for replacement of the awning at the Galva office and granite sign at the Viola office.
- Mitchell Walker is assuming duties for the SNAP-Ed program coordinator position; he previously served the unit as a community worker. Alyssa Klauer's first day with Extension as a SNAP-Ed community worker is October 31, 2022. Two additional SNAP-Ed community worker positions are posted with interviews expected for early November.
- The unit is hiring two part-time office support assistants to replace an outgoing full-time office support assistant. This will result in a change of office hours for Galva. Instead of Monday-Wednesday-Friday, the office will be open Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday. Viola will remain Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday. The change is effective the week of October 31, 2022.
- This past summer, outdated overhead projectors and screens were replaced with television monitors at all three offices. Program presenters and participants alike have been enjoying the higher quality viewing.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion was made by Barb Chiles and seconded by Nick Shillington that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Milroy