



## **Extension Council Meeting Minutes**

Boone, DeKalb, Ogle Extension Unit 2

Tuesday, September 27, 2022—6:00 p.m.

Double-O Saloon, 5555 N Clark St., Monroe Center, IL

Present: Extension Board Member: Rick Fritz; Advisory Council Members: Gina Caronna, Sherrie Taylor, Heather Wick, Dan Dietrich, Sarah Hackbarth, Josh Nelson, Barb Wych, Bill Hall, Dan Kane, Lisa Mund, Heather Nelson, Jane Zeien, and Bode Martin; Staff: Bruce Black, Peggy Doty, Johnna Jennings, Mike Delany, Connie Handel, Judy Hodge, Cindy Jankiewicz, Teresa Schwarz, and Heather Coyle.

County Director, Heather Coyle welcomed members and staff. She asked that everyone introduce themselves and after introductions, she asked everyone to make their way through the food line and enjoy their supper. She encouraged everyone to get to know each other a little better.

After supper, Heather informed everyone that new Extension members would be getting Welcome packets. She had new members raise their hand and Teresa handed Barb Wych, Bode Martin, Sherrie Taylor, the packets and advised Gina Caronna that she would email one to her since she ran out of packets. Heather said that Teresa would be announcing the members with expired terms and to stand up as their name was called so a thank you gift could be given to them. Members with expired terms and coming off were Ellen Genrich and Dan Dietrich (Health and Local Foods); Bill Hall (Ag & Natural Resources); Parker Morris, Heather Nelson, Carl Rozanas, Cyric Walls, Ellie Davis, Carter Conderman, Gracie Prose, Jeannette Mingus, and Julie Ebens (4-H E & R).

Coyle went over the Illinois Open Meetings Act link and the EEO Program Notification plan link that will be emailed to everyone. As well as a link to the unit's Impact Report and invitations to future programs that are being offered in the communities.

The next item that was discussed was the names of the signatories that have been designated for the unit, which are *Heather Coyle, Johnna Jennings, Jodi Baumgartner, and Melinda Colbert for **FNB checking account (Boone & DeKalb)***. And *Heather Coyle, Johnna Jennings, Jodi Baumgartner, Melinda Colbert, and Judy Hodge for **Harvard checking account (Ogle)***.

Extension Updates: Heather noted the changes in the agenda that were based on feedback from last year's meeting. Less time was spent on communicating required notifications, welcome packets were developed for new members, the food has improved, and more time was made available for committee reports. She hopes the new agenda honors their time better. Heather also noted this is a written needs assessment year. She asked the Council to think about what they are noticing as needs in the community that can be served by research, education, and facilitation from Extension. What else can we be doing in the community to increase advocacy and expand programming? She explained that each member will be receiving a digital survey from Extension and will be asked to complete it themselves and distribute it to others in the community.

Coyle provided an overview of Council duties and described the roles of officers before turning the floor over to Jane Zeien, acting Chairperson. Zeien asked everyone to look at the minutes from last year's meeting (which were handed out) and asked if there were any errors or omissions. No errors or omissions noted.

Chair called for committee reports:

**Health & Local Foods:** Judy Hodge reported on programming, including Community Gardens and food pantry donations in all 3 counties. She touched on the Health and SNAP-Ed programs, but details were limited due to the vacant SNAP-Ed Educator position. She mentioned Karla Belzer (absent) and thanked Bruce Black for his work with the Master Gardeners. Coyle noted both are educators from the Whiteside, Lee and Carroll unit who deliver programming in Boone, DeKalb and Ogle counties in exchange for CED programming. Agreements like these expand service to our local communities. Hodge invited council to reach out to staff when needs are identified. Even if the need isn't one your committee serves, still reach out and the proper committee will be advised. *See attachment A.*

**Community and Economic Development:** Mike Delany and committee member, Heather Wick, spoke about the programming that they have been working on, including the regional SWOT analysis used to develop a needs assessment. *See attachment B.*

**Ag and Natural Resources:** Peggy Doty and Dan Kane spoke about the watershed project and how decisions made by all communities in the watershed impact the region. They specifically noted the depletion of the aquifer in Joliet and how that intersects with our counties. For that reason, the focus of their committee will be water education, which would consist of a series of programs through Extension.

**4-H & Youth:** Johnna Jennings explained how everything is pretty much back to normal with face-to-face meetings. 4-H camp was day camp this year with 140 kids attending. Hopefully it will be an overnight camp next year. She spoke of 4-H EPC, Kathy Dombek, a new position hired this past March to better reach underserved audiences. Health Jam just started. It is an annual fall program conducted in Oregon schools to reach 5th graders and educate them on careers in the health industry as well as making healthy life choices. Chick Incubation and Embryology Program was delivered in 21 schools and 81 classrooms in DeKalb and Ogle, reaching 1,810 youth this past spring. She and Dr. Ken Koelkebeck also conducted the teacher's training, reaching 216 teachers across the state. Also of note was Ag in the Classroom. Melinda Colbert delivered 999 programs last year. *See attachment C.*

Coyle discussed how State Matching funds can increase the value of local contributions. Each year the University of Illinois Director of Extension submits a request to the Illinois General Assembly for State Matching Funds based upon local county board and partner agreement contributions. Historically 65% of local dollars are matched.

Jane asked if there was any other comments or questions, which there were none.

The chair then requested volunteers for officer positions. Jane Zeien was asked if she would assume the position of chair since she served as vice-chair last year. She concurred.

|  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| CHAIR - Represents Council, conducts annual meeting:     | Jane Zeien, Boone Co.   |
| VICE-CHAIR - Chair duties if chairperson absent:         | Barb Wych               |
| SECRETARY - Takes annual meeting notes, reviews minutes: | Heather Wick, Boone Co. |

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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**Council Roles Summarized:** \* Linking University of Illinois Extension with local leadership, communities, agencies, and organizations.

\* Supporting and advocating for Extension programs. Identifying needs and potential resources (human, financial, physical).

\* Advise the program planning and implementation processes. \* Assuring council membership represents all segments in counties served. \* Assuring program outreach meets equal opportunity and program access guidelines.



# Health & Local Foods Committee

## 2022 Program Year for

### Boone, DeKalb & Ogle Counties

#### **Description & Vision of the Committee**

The Health & Local Foods Committee has been formed to address the issues of our communities with a more informed scope from our partner council members. Our partners will help in informing us of the current and future needs in our communities relating to health and local foods. This will allow us to provide program opportunities to address these needs as they arise.

#### **Local Foods (ANR)**

- Community Gardens
  - o **Boone:** Health Dept. Garden (155.75 lbs.); Buchanan Street Garden (139 lbs.); Ida Public Library, YMCA Gardens (132.75 lbs.)
  - o **DeKalb:** Dolce Vita/Northwest Medicine Gardens; Engh Farm Garden (2056 lbs.); St. Paul's Garden; North Elementary School Garden; Genoa Community Garden
  - o **Ogle:** The Kitchen Table (GTIL)
- Local Programs
  - o **Boone:** Ida Public Library
    - o Seed Swap
    - o Tea Garden
    - o Indoor Propagation (Bruce Black)
    - o Houseplant Help
    - o Seed Library Help Desk
  - o **DeKalb:** Sycamore Public Library
    - o Tea Gardens
    - o Container Gardening
    - o Community Gardens
  - o **Ogle:** Oregon Public Library
    - o Seed Swap



- Belvidere Park District NASR
- Rock River Center Programs
  - Perennial Vegetables
  - Blueberries and Strawberries
- Boone County Farm Stroll
- Ready, Set, Grow Conference
- Community Garden Tour Day
- Gardener's Pathway Mini conference
- Jr. Master Gardener Program/ 4-H Spin Club
- Weekly I Think Green summer program for OSCAR
- DeKalb County Garden Walk
- DeKalb Homemaker's Education Association program
- Bi-monthly column (April – Oct) in Daily Chronicle entitled "How Does Your Garden Grow?"
- Chamberlain Park (Genoa) Toddler Garden weekly programs
- Monthly Help Desks – All counties

### **Health/Family Life**

- Rock River Center – monthly brain health exercise program, Wits Fitness
- Polo Senior Center - monthly brain health exercise program, Wits Fitness
- Hub City Senior Center – provided Finding Your Get Up and Go in April
- Boone County Council on Aging
  - May 12 – Building Bridges Across the Generations
  - June 29 – Looking for the Funny Side
  - July 19 – Simplify Your Life by Clearing the Clutter

### **Coalitions Involving SNAP-Ed**

- Boone County Hunger Coalition (2017 – present) Judy helps support
- Belvidere School District Wellness Committee (2017-2020)
- University Village Collaborative – Annie Glidden North Work Group (2019-present) Connie helps support



**SNAP-ED – Community Workers**

- **Boone – Jan Saglier**
  - CATCH (Coordinated Approach To Child Health) Nutrition and physical activity program taught at The Belvidere Family YMCA summer camp, Perry Elementary School garden, USDA summer meals and several Ida Bookmobile stops.
  - The Great Garden Detective Adventure – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Class at Perry Elementary School
  - Illinois Junior Chef – Cooking school
  - Eat Move Save Booths provide nutrition information and were held at Empower Boone Food Pantry, St John’s Community Meals and at Boone County Health Department’s Farmers Market and Wellness Fair.
  - Healthy Cents Program, which covers nutrition and budgeting, is held at the Boone County Health Department for WIC families and monthly at the Extension office.
  
- **DeKalb & Ogle – Brianne Gugerty**
  - Illinois Junior Chef
  - Eat Move Save booths at food pantries
  - CATCH
  - OrganWise Guys

| Name                 | Organization                          | County (BDO) |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Judy Hodge           | Boone County Program Coordinator      | Boone        |
| Connie Handel        | DeKalb County Program Coordinator     | DeKalb       |
| Cindy Jankiewicz     | Ogle County Program Coordinator       | Ogle         |
| Karla Belzer         | Extension Family Life Educator        | BDO          |
| Bruce Black          | Extension Horticulture Educator       | BDO          |
| <b>Ellen Genrich</b> | <b>Boone County Health Department</b> | <b>Boone</b> |
| Megan Johnson        | Belvidere School District             | Boone        |
| Rylie Kues           | Family Services Agency                | DeKalb       |
| <b>Dan Dietrich</b>  | <b>Dietrich Ranch</b>                 | <b>Ogle</b>  |
| Jamie Nobis          | Rock River Center                     | Ogle         |
| Sarah Hackbarth      | 4-H Leader and works in a hospital    | Ogle         |
| Josh Nelson          | Nelson Family Farms                   | Ogle         |

**2023 Meeting Schedule (6pm)**

- February 28 – Zoom
- May 30– Zoom
- September 26– In-Person
- November 28- Zoom







## **Community and Economic Development (CED) Committee**

### **1. Membership:**

#### Community Members:

Gina Caronna (DeKalb County), Lisa Hinrichs (Ogle County), Emily Plapp (DeKalb County),  
Sherrie Taylor (Ogle County), Liz Vos (Ogle County), Heather Wick (Boone County)

#### Extension CED Educator:

Mike Delany

### **2. Current Activities**

#### **2.1 CED Committee**

- Consultation on the current needs in our counties and what resources might be available to address those needs. One of the focal areas for examination is young-adult engagement and retention, as well as entrepreneurship.
- In 2022, the committee has worked through a regional SWOT analysis and a Needs Assessment.

#### **2.2 Community and Economic Development team**

##### Program-related work includes:

- In Ogle County, in connection with a presentation by CED Specialist Pam Schallhorn of her “Reversing the Exodus” program, Mike moderated a Millennial discussion panel about life in Ogle.
- In Boone County, we offered a presentation in partnership with the Rockford Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the US Export Assistance Center, on international trade opportunities for minority businesses. Out of this event grew the Opportunity Equity Forum, a regional collaboration of federal, state and local agencies as well as private-sector entities, to offer educational and networking events for minority business owners.
- In DeKalb County, just this week, we have launched our first class sessions in the “My Hometown is Cool” program, offered to a class of high-school seniors and related to youth engagement and youth workforce development, based on a program from West Virginia University.
- On the statewide CED team, we continue to assist with development of LGE webinars on various topics, e.g. Site Selection and Broadband Planning.

##### Project-related work includes:

- We have continued collaboration with Extension colleagues and campus faculty on programming related to watershed protection in our local Pine Creek Watershed in Ogle County.
- We are also representing Unit 2 and the Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN) in local planning groups, such as NIPARC, the Northwestern Illinois Preparedness and Response Coalition.

##### Additional efforts include:

- We continue to develop Unit contacts with, e.g., Chamber directors and EDA leadership.
- We also connect with UIUC faculty members in Economics, Business, etc. and other specialties which could be valuable for development work here in our Unit.



## 4-H and Youth Development Report for Extension Council - 2022

As for the community club 4-H programming things are pretty much back to normal. 4-H staff have been busy recruiting members and training volunteers, and in offering a variety of 4-H county programming. We had 4-H Recognition Programs, Super Saturdays/Day of Dabbling, 4-H general projects show judging, and county fairs/livestock shows, community service projects and many more miscellaneous programs. We did a 4-H Day Camp again this year that reached 127 youth. If all goes as planned, we will return to an overnight 4-H camp next summer.

This spring we hired Kathy Dombek in our office as a 4-H Extension Program Coordinator to help us in reaching more underserved youth with in-school and after-school programming as well as our Hispanic/Latino audiences. She has hit the ground running and has already made a lot of connections with groups such as Northern Illinois University Latino Center, DeKalb Teen Reach, Rochelle HUB After school program, Kishwaukee Education Consortium, OSCAR, Opportunity House in DeKalb County to start a 4-H club with their adults that are mentally challenged, as well as the Hispanic/Latino 4-H clubs in Boone and DeKalb. She worked with seven Master Gardeners in DeKalb County to conduct a program called "Digging in the Dirt" where she reached 9 youth. This next week on October 5 from 6 to 9 p.m. at NIU she will be offering a Juntos program for Hispanic/Latino students and families. She has pulled in partners with Rock Valley College, Kishwaukee College, and three departments at NIU. She is also working with Melissa Irwin and the Hispanic/Latino 4-H club members in Boone as they will be hosting a booth at Washington Academy for Hispanic Heritage celebration.

In Boone County a Summer Cooking School took place with Belvidere Schools. Melissa Irwin recruited, and Johnna Jennings trained 11 Teen Teachers who taught two weeks of cooking school to middle school students. Registration showed both weeks of classes were filled to capacity, but when the programs took place, we ended up with half of the numbers we expected. This program is funded by a National 4-H Walmart Grant. The school administrators loved this program and agreed to cover the cost of the food purchased to conduct this program. Administrators have also suggested we offer this program again next summer. This was already our second year conducting this program with Belvidere schools.

Health Jam was another program that took place last fall in Oregon Schools to reach 5<sup>th</sup> graders and educate them on careers in the health industry as well as making healthy life choices. A total of 94 youth were reached with this 9 week program. Funding to support this program came from Walmart grant and Northwest Illinois Area Health Education Centers (AHEC). Majority of the youth reached in this program are not 4-H members. This program just started up again last week for the new school year at Oregon, and again funding was provided through the Walmart Grant and AHEC.

Our 4-H Chick Incubation and Embryology program reached 81 classrooms in 28 schools reaching a total of 1,810 youth. In addition to offering this program Johnna Jennings was involved in providing teacher training with Dr. Ken Koelkebeck for 216 teachers across the state. For this training Johnna worked with the Illinois State Board of Education to provide Professional Development Hours for teachers.

Ag in the Classroom under Melinda Colbert's direction did 999 programs in 19 schools and 239 classrooms. She reached a total 19,261 youth during the year with duplications. This year Melinda was able to have an intern that helped with the programming. This is the highest number of programs she has done since she started back in 2007.