

Boone, DeKalb, Ogle Extension  
**Extension Council Meeting**  
**CED Advisory Subcommittee**  
**Tuesday, July 25, 2023 – 5:30 pm CDT**  
*Virtual Zoom Meeting*

**I ILLINOIS**  
Extension  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER  
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://illinois.zoom.us/j/81024672379?pwd=ZWFYTkhh6emRxYmplTTlJejFNTENsUT09>

Present: Heather Wick, Gina Caronna, Sherrie Taylor, Mike Delany

## **Agenda**

1. Call to Order, Roll Call
2. Review and approval of minutes from Aug. 2, 2022, & Mar. 23, 2023 meetings
3. Open Meetings Act training status
4. Review and discussion of Extension Strategic Planning questionnaire
5. Discussion: “how can Extension, its personnel and its programming assist/support my organization?”
6. Annual Extension Council Meeting: Thursday, September 26, 2023, 6 pm-8 pm, at Fatty's Pub & Grille (1312 W Lincoln Hwy, DeKalb, IL 60115)
7. Adjourn

## **Minutes**

1. The meeting was called to order shortly after 5:30 pm CT.
2. Initially, H. Wick was the only committee member attending. As per the Meeting invitation, Delany and Wick begin a discussion of the Extension strategic planning questionnaire. The objective of the discussion was to get a sense from stakeholders of their impressions about the questions in the questionnaire and their utility. In the course of the discussion, Wick noted that, in the ranking question of the 14 Extension state priorities, every single one of them plays into economic development exercises and has a potential impact. The usefulness of the questions about the mission statement, vision and values was questionable, since the questions themselves were somewhat confusing.
3. After a few minutes, Gina Caronna joined the conversation. There were some significant audio difficulties in the connection which made the communication with her difficult initially. Wick had to excuse herself early from the meeting at about 6:20. Caronna and Delany continued to talk about agenda item #5, how Extension might assist her organization, The Workforce Connection. In this context, Delany and Caronna discussed TWC's grant needs, in particular because TWC could use additional connections in Ogle County. They agreed to meet in the near future to explore avenues of assistance.
4. At 6:30 pm, Sherrie Taylor joined the meeting. Caronna left the meeting shortly thereafter. Taylor and Delany continued a review of the strategic-plan questionnaire. Taylor noted in particular that, in order to be usable by members of the general public who might take the

survey, there needs to be more information about the organization itself. In particular, she opined that the questions “will overwhelm them.”

In discussing how Extension might support her organization, Delany noted that since her employer is a private-sector business, there probably wouldn't be much opportunity for direct support. Taylor, however, inquired about what Extension does with respect to promotion of internships and apprenticeships. She noted that there is a demand for apprenticeships among the younger generation and she noted that she always encourages the idea among her contacts, including, e.g., her current employer, a coffee producer and distributor.

Taylor and Delany also discussed the possibility of a data presentation by her on a variety of topics related to local government, given her data analysis background during her many years at Northern Illinois University. Both Taylor and Delany agreed that they should keep this in mind for future reference.

5. Wick noted that she will not be able to attend the Extension Council annual meeting in late September, due to a pre-existing commitment.

Caronna noted she will not be able to attend the Extension Council annual meeting, as she will be traveling on vacation that week.

Finally, Taylor indicated she is planning to attend the Extension Council's annual meeting.

6. Wick and Taylor both indicated a willingness to continue on the Advisory Council for another 2-year term.

Taylor and Delany concluded the meeting at about 7:15 CT.

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