



University of Illinois Unit 1 Extension Council Meeting  
Wednesday, May 8, 2024, 6:00pm

Present:

Stephenson County – Sheila Keene (by Zoom), Deborah Lischwe, Ethan Trampel, Chris Urish

Jo Daviess County – Amy Hardwicke, Garnet Fee, Ray Massingill

Winnebago County – Ann Somers, Dan Obert

Staff – Kathryn Seebruck, Gina Adams, Margaret Larson

*The Council met in person at the three county locations and were joined by Zoom for the Unit I meeting.*

Chair Chris Urish called the meeting to order. Members and staff introduced themselves. She asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 23 meeting (4/24/2023), but Council members did not recall receiving those minutes, so this action was deferred until a subsequent meeting.

Angie Goral, Winnebago County Board member and longtime (Liaison) Extension Council member was acknowledged for her many years of service. She will be replaced by another county board member.

Council members and staff described their participation in Extension activities that have occurred since our last meeting. This included promotion of the Master Gardener program; cicada presentations; workshops on seeds and brambles; attendance at Diane Reinhold's workshops on air fryers, freezing and dehydrating foods; and participation in the pilot Climate Stewards course offered by the State Extension office.

Kathryn Seebruck, Crop Science Educator, described her education, experience and role in this position. Among her new activities is a podcast "Talking Crop" and digital agriculture. Gina Adams, Metro (Rockford) Youth Development Educator likewise spoke of her background, role, and activities, both current and upcoming, that she's offering, including SEL (social, emotional learning) sessions.

Margaret Larson shared the draft budget for Unit 1's FY 25. Financially, the Unit is in the best situation that Margaret has experienced during her tenure. State funding has returned to 2008 levels.

For the next Council meeting, Council members are asked to attend their county's fair during 4-H Day. This has been done in the past few summers and gives Council members a first-hand look at activities and accomplishments of 4-H members.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 followed a motion by Amy, seconded by Dan and approval by all Council members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Lischwe

**University of Illinois Extension**

College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences

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