

Meeting Minutes for March 11, 2021 Extension Council Meeting via Zoom

- I. Call to Order by Chair, Jess Kneareem- called to order at noon
- II. Council Member Roll Call- Jennifer Hendrickson, Jess Kneareem, Sean Breen, Beth Williamson, Sheldon Raber, Roy Clapp (CB), Gail Mason (CB), Dave McCabe (CB), Nancy Purdy (CB), Cheri Burcham (staff), Kim Morrison (staff), Jaylynn Schober (staff), Kathy Deters (staff), Jessica Hays (staff), Yolanda Nation (staff), Susan Stollard (staff), Diana Litteral (staff), Pam Vaughan-Sturgeon
- III. Approval of January 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes- Sean Breen approved the meeting minutes, 2nd Sheldon Raber. All in favor, none opposed.
- IV. Welcome and Introductions of Members and Guests
- V. Extension Updates: County Director, Pam Vaughan-Sturgeon
 - a. Fiscal- working on the budgets for FY 22. Pam states accounts are in good shape. Pam discusses setting up smaller meetings to go deeper into the budget and hope these meetings will answer questions, and then the answers can be presented back at the normal meetings. Pam praises staff for monitoring the budget and being conscious of their spending for programs.
 - i. Trust
 - ii. Self-Supporting
 - b.+c. Personal and Facilities- We are in process of going through our leases and making sure they are all updated. Two are in the process of renewal. Shelby counties lease expires at the end of this fiscal year and are working to renew. Cumberland counties lease is also up for renewal, but other space opportunities are being looked at. Pam asks Council if they know of any places that might be open for an office space to let us know. We are currently working a hybrid schedule in the office, so 2 days a week in office per person, and the other days remote for staff. Starting April 1, if numbers are staying low in each county for COVID then we will start being back in office full time. We monitor guidelines from both the State and University of Illinois. We have doorbells set up at the doors on the offices, and phone numbers on the door to call to help with efficiency in helping customers. We are very happy to be having very small groups meeting that are following safety protocols (masks, distancing, sanitizing) for certain programs.
- VI. Education
 - a. 4-H- Jaylynn discussed with following guidelines clubs have been able to start meeting again. Focus has been about getting enrollment numbers back up. Cumberland had about 116 members last year and right now is at 75. Coles had 64 members and 19 Cloverbuds, and this year has 132 members and 5 Cloverbuds. Mo-DO 54 registered this year; last year had 116 members registered. Some individuals are waiting until last minute to register to see what is happening with the fair this year. We are offering monthly workshops called Explore 4-H and is open to any youth in our five county area. In January, we created first aid kits and discussed how to be prepared for emergencies. In February, we made trebuchets. March is going to be making can-can robots using little motors and plastic cups. In April, it will be Rockets to the Rescue, and then will take

a break for the summer months in preparation for Fairs. These projects reflect projects they can also do in 4-H. Coles is holding their first in person art workshop on March 13th. Jessica (Coles County 4-H Coordinator) is creating a photo contest and is hoping to launch in April as an event. Angie (Moultrie-Douglas 4-H Coordinator) is focusing on getting the clubs to start meeting again in person and getting active while keeping the kids safe. Cumberland is planning a horse clinic in June and 4-H week events. Yolanda discussed Shelby county numbers as 398 members last year and 366 this year and their members have jumped right back into 4-H. Yolanda estimates we will end up with 375 at the end of enrollment in Shelby. Jim Sparks, volunteer, helped to create a video on the trebuchet and assisted 4-H'ers after building as well through a follow up zoom call with them. Officers training was held recently with a total of 18 4-H'ers attending the training. A parent from Douglas county was so excited to be able to attend a 4-H event in person, and more positive feedback was received. Hoping to have officer's training twice a year. Spring craft day is coming up on Saturday there will be two sessions to accommodate everyone safely. There are 25 attending each session. There is a public speaking workshop coming up that has 10 registered so far. Yolanda is also planning the 4-H week for Shelby including annual window display, 4-H Fire Up, and community services day. They are also going to do a Dacey trail 4-H walk and scavenger hunt and a bonfire in order to spread out and follow guidelines. Early registered members (before January 11) will get a t-shirt in each county. Gail Mason asked Yolanda about the public speaking workshop and mentioned that she knows many who can help out with that and they are going to be following up with one another. Federation kids in Shelby also won a 500.00 grant and ended up being able to put together backpacks with easy foods for kids to prepare; and hygiene items. 70 backpacks were able to be filled.

- b. SNAP-Ed- Mary Beth (SNAP-ed Program Coordinator) there are food mobiles in Windsor every 6 weeks and the Shelby Federation members come and help unload in all kinds of weather and we are grateful for their help. We added the Lovington area to the food distribution and had about 60 families sign up for the first one and are having another one on April 21st. These events are free of charge and sponsored by Catholic Charities that serve the Shelby and Lovington area. Mary Beth plans to meet with Catholic Charities to see about distribution in Coles, and the Moultrie-Douglas areas. Ameren is also working with SNAP to get freezers to food pantries. Also, SNAP-ed has been partnering with HSHS Good Shepherd Hospital, they have been moving raised beds to help in growing food. There are also pending projects with Rotary, and SNAP-ed continues to provide virtual programming to schools where they previously used to go in person to. Pam mentions being pleased with all that the staff have been able to do, and discusses that the Family Life and Master Gardener programs have also been having programs and a junior Master Gardener program is going to be starting soon.

VII. Old Business- none

VIII. New Business

- a. Extension Council members- Pam is sending out information that shows who is able to stay on Council for reappointment, and areas that we need new representatives on the Council.

IX. Other Items- no other items

- X. Adjournment- Beth Williamson moves to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Jennifer Hendrickson.
Meeting ended 1:03PM