

Extension Council Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2019
Toledo Village Hall, Toledo, IL
12:00 – 1:00

I. Call to order by president Jess Knearem at 12:03 pm.

II. Roll call done by Sheldon Raber. In attendance: Gerry Bertrand, Sean Breen, Gary Gergeni, Jennifer Hendrickson, Jess Knearem, Ginger Kuhn, Sheldon Raber, Mike Sowers, Jim Sparks, Chris Strohl, and Grant Wade. Guests included: Danna Lewis, County Director; Vivian, Ginger Kuhn's mother; Jaylynn Schober, Cumberland County 4-H Coordinator; Kathy Deters, Cumberland County Office Support; Marybeth Massey, SNAP–Ed Coordinator.

III. Motion to approve the September 25, 2019 minutes by Jennifer Hendrickson; second by Gerry Bertrand; none opposed.

IV. Danna Lewis Presented Extension Updates

A. Fiscal

1. Trust account balance as of September 30, 2019 is \$414,157. This is about \$75,000 ahead from September 2018. The question was raised why the figure was higher. Some previous fiscal year funding was received; also reflects some savings in local offices operational costs.

2. Self-supporting account balance is \$58,158.48.

B. Personnel

Dave Shiley, Local Foods & Small Farms Educator, has announced that he will be leaving Extension as of December 15, 2019; he is taking a position at Richland Community College. His position will need to be filled; exactly what the description of the new position(s) could depend on the completed needs survey.

C. Facilities

1. Coles County and Moultrie & Douglas Counties continue to settle in to their new facilities.

2. Cumberland County Office is looking to identify opportunities for new office space. They need enough room to grow and be able to add to staff as needed.

3. Shelby County – no update.

V. Marybeth Massey, SNAP–ED Coordinator presented a report of Partners in Produce Program

Marybeth met with Sheldon Raber, Arthur Produce Auction manager last February and asked for Extension to receive produce donations from Arthur Produce Auction to distribute to food pantries in the Unit 19 area. 25,268 pounds of produce was distributed through this program to 22 food pantries and the Windsor School feeding program in summer 2019. There is a benefit auction being organized in Arthur to benefit this program; it will be held on November 29. Jennifer Hendrickson asked about the possibility of writing a grant for a vehicle to distribute produce; that is unlikely.

VI. Community Needs Assessment

The survey form went out to Extension staff last week. It will be taken over the next three months. Danna asked that each council member take a pack of 50 surveys to hand out and bring back completed at the January council meeting. Extension will distribute via events in local communities, social media, and county boards. It was suggested to have survey forms available at public libraries, village halls, churches, and homeschool organizations.

VII. Old Business – None

VIII. New Business – None

IX. Other Reports

Jaylynn Schober gave an updated on Cumberland County 4H. In 2017, there were 75 members; at the end of 2019, there are 105 members. Cumberland County is number 4 in the state for growth in 4H. There is an event being planned to promote 4H in the community in conjunction with Toledo Christmas activities on the first Saturday of December.

X. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:43 PM by Chris Strohl; second by Jim Sparks; none opposed.