

**University of Illinois Extension - Unit 18**

**Extension Council Minutes**

**Montgomery County Extension office**

**March 14, 2017**

Call to Order

Charlie Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Those in attendance from Extension Council: Charlie Peterson (also ESAC representative), Mike Brokaw, Katie Paulek, Todd Buesinger, Robert Wiese, Kenny Schafer, Barb Grabner-Kerns, Alice Tebbe, Pamela Weber and Evan Young. Extension staff in attendance: Amanda Cole, Lisa Peterson, and Shelly Curtin.

Welcome and Introductions

Minutes

Barb Grabner-Kerns made a correction to the October 2016 minutes, stating that in Andrew Holsinger's mention of an upcoming program was for invasive pests, not evasive. Motion to approve the October 2016 Extension Council meeting minutes as presented were motioned by Barb Grabner-Kerns and seconded by Mike Brokaw. All in favor, motion approved.

Fiscal Report

Amanda Cole presented the February 2017 Trust and Revolving report. It was mentioned during FY 17 we have used some carryover to make of the shortfall. For FY16 no budget was passed – we did get through the year by using carryover and were able to not cut any staff or programming.

Still hoping for funds for FY17 to be restored to FY15 funding level. Only funds seen in for FY16, are 4H premiums (on campus). 4-H premium checks were able to be issued for the summer of 2015.

February Trust and Revolving account reports were also presented.

We continue to be frugal and control as many expenses as we can so we don't have to dip further into carryover – for now it's a wait and see game.

Charlie asked for the February financial reports to be approved as presented. All in favor, motion approved.

OLD Business

ESAC report – Charlie Peterson told about going to Washington DC to lobby for Extension and that some ESAC members were able to attend a breakfast and talk one on one with Legislators. He explained that the money is set aside for Extension but has not been released at this point.

Staffing discussion: Resent resignations were: Dusty Hall, SNAP ED position in Montgomery. Crystal Carpani has filled her position. Charlotte Schuricht, Ag Literacy coordinator, has moved from Montgomery County to Christian County. Beth Groves has filled that position in Montgomery County. Valerie Belusko was hired in Montgomery County as the Community and Economic Development Program Coordinator. Lizzy Conrady has filled the position of SNAP Community Worker in Macoupin County. There will be minimal summer help available this summer, mainly to help with 4-H county fairs.

### NEW Business

Amanda mentioned our ongoing task of trying to make certain we are reaching out to any underserved audiences.

Amanda and Lisa Peterson gave information on the Eat Local Initiative that is in the works. Lisa is working on setting summer programs. She is in the process of collaborating with some of the local hospitals. Sessions will be one hour starting at the end of May, running through the end of July. Lisa has talked with the Christian County YMCA on collaborating with them as well. Lisa and Andrew are collaborating on sessions. Andrew would teach how to grow the foods and Lisa would teach how to cook with them.

SNAP-Ed will have 5 to 6 summer cooking programs again this year in Christian County. Morrisonville is no longer SNAP eligible, so Lisa will be doing programs in that area.

#### Staff Program Reports:

Andrew Holsinger provided a handout regarding the Annie's Project. There were 13 participants this year. It seemed to work well having a daytime class rather than evening. The number of participants was comparable.

Lisa Peterson explained a few of her current programs: Nutrition and Wellness – Eat Well Coalition Initiative. Also, a Grant through the Lupton foundation – she's been given \$5,000 on letter of intent. This will include education to consumers and producers with hands on classes for cooking with an opportunity for hands on adult classes. She's very excited about this. In the beginning process, with a needs assessment, she can see what everyone wants and needs.

Gary Letterly – passed out a report of summary of impact, program numbers and areas and efforts he's been working on. Outreach at farm sites – cover crops and water issues.

Peggy Hampton provided us with a handout. 2016 summer youth impact report. Education programs served 1382 kids served in all 4 counties (does not include 4h). 24 teen teachers helped who will receive Amazon gift cards as pay. STEM is robotic s and summer education. Over 500 instructional hours were provided and 190 classes.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, June 13, Macoupin County, UI Carlinville.

Motion to adjourn by Mike Brokaw.

**APPROVED June 13, 2017**