



Extension

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER
& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Unit 26 Extension Council Meeting

March 4, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT – Jean Alstat, Jennifer Barbour, Ron Ferguson, Harvey Gillespie, and, Sarah Ward

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT – Lynn Heins, Katie Bell, Cindy Bauman, Michaela Castens, Ramona Girtman, Nick Brown, Becky Needham, Robin Ridgley Rhonda Shubert, and Toni Kay Wright

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 6:02 p.m.

Jennifer Barbour, Chair kicked the meeting off with a scavenger hunt icebreaker.

Introduction of Family Life Educator, Robin Ridgely

Introduction of Jackson County SNAP-Ed Community Worker, Nick Brown

Also announced two additional SNAP-Ed Community Workers, Misty Bernhard and Jenny Povolish

APPROVAL of JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Lynn had emailed the January 7th meeting minutes prior to Council meeting. Jean Alstat made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, Sarah Ward seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lynn presented the current financial report and discussed funding sources. Review Unit Trust Budget Document through February, 2021

Ron Ferguson made a motion to approve the budget as presented, Sarah Ward seconded the motion. Financial report approved.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- Perry County 4-H Youth Experiences – three youth shared their experiences with Perry County 4-H ranging from newspaper writing, livestock showing, traveling, and many other activities that they have been involved.
- Office space updates for Williamson and Randolph Counties –

- Williamson County office looking for new office space that is more accessible; currently have 2 options that are being explored and hoping a decision can be made in the next couple of months as the current lease expires at the end of June.
- Randolph County – will be leasing a smaller office space within the Randolph County Farm Bureau office. Meetings and programs will continue to take place in Randolph County.
- Randolph/Perry County Illinois Extension Merge – will be merging Randolph and Perry Counties offices into the new office in Perry County.

PROGRAM SHOWCASE – 4-H Youth Development Updates –

Lynn announced that the 4-H Youth Development Educator position vacancy; expecting interviews to take place this month and hope to fill the position later this Spring.

Rhonda Shubert shared an update on the Blessing Box project that will be implemented Unit-wide to support food and hygiene product access

Michaela Castens shared an update on the virtual programs, activities, and field trips that have taken place during the COVID-19 pandemic

Ramona Girtman shared information on the Wal-Mart Healthy Habits Grants in Jackson and Williamson County reaching 30 families to promote healthy living in families and the Growing Together Illinois garden donation project with 4-H, Salvation Army Food Pantry, and City of Marion in Williamson County and in Jackson County with Extension, Kids Korner, and Good Samaritan Ministries.

Cindy Bauman shared an update to planning the upcoming Summer 4-H Shows and Exhibitions for in-person shows that follow COVID safety protocols and established rules.

Becky Needham shared an update on Unit-wide virtual clubs that were initiated to keep our 4-H members engaged. The clubs that we were initiated included: Environmental Science, Animal Science, Cooking, Creative, STEM Club, Cloverbuds. Each virtual club kit included 6 activities and met over Zoom to do the activities together. Over 70 kids participated in these clubs.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Sarah Ward made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jean Alstat seconded the motion.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:32 p.m.