

ILLINOIS

Extension

**University of Illinois Extension
Sangamon, Menard, and Logan County Council Minutes
January 8, 2018 - 7:00 p.m.
Blue Dog Inn, Lincoln, IL**

Present: David Mendenhall, Lynn Chard, Jim Strubing, Mary Brown, Jennifer Taylor Brown, Brenda Buckles, Gary Letterly, Daniel Kloppe, Grace Skelton, and Extension Staff, Terri Miller, Erica Austin and Kathryn Long.

Absent: Eli Klokkenga, Otto Rentschler, Ed Whitcomb, Jr., Charles Ruben, Kevin Bateman, and Ny'Torious McCoy, Bob Farmer, Jill Keeton, Colleen Harms, and Alex Bruno.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Chairman David Mendenhall.

The council reviewed minutes from the September meeting, Chard made the motion to accept, Letterly 2nd the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Program Updates – Miller gave a report on recent Extension programs including a Unit visit by ACES Dean, Dr. Kim Kidwell, in November. She also shared photos from the tour. Mendenhall commented on how he had been able to attend the tour and enjoyed it greatly. The possibility of doing these types of Extension tours in the future for area stakeholders was discussed. Miller also gave a report on ag and natural resources programming, Horticulture programs, Ag in the Classroom, and SNAP-Ed activities. Sangamon County 4-H Metro Educator, Erica Austin, gave a detailed report on the Metro 4-H programs and recent activities. Kathryn Long, Sangamon County 4-H Program Coordinator also gave a report of 4-H activities and programs.

Financial Report – Miller told the Council that Extension had not yet received matching funds from the state and that she does not know if Extension will be included in the 2018-2019 budget. She also mentioned that the Federal Income tax law could affect charitable giving. She also reported that Extension had received levy checks from both Logan and Sangamon counties.

Staffing Update – Miller informed the Council that there was an open support staff position in Logan County office. An offer has been made and accepted to fill the position and an announcement will be made once all the paperwork goes through. The new staff person is expected to start February 5.

Open Meetings Act – Miller reminded Council members to do the online open meetings act training ASAP and to forward a copy of the certificate of completion to her. She also reminded them that if they have already completed this training for service on another public board, they do not have to retake the test, just provide her with a copy of their completion certificate.

Holiday Schedule - The council discussed the office schedule for the 2018-2019 Holiday season. Letterly made a motion to close the offices on Monday, December 24, 2018, through Tuesday, January 1, 2019, and Strubing 2nd. The motion passed unanimously.

Reaching New and Underserved Audiences – Miller reminded the council members that Extension was always seeking ideas, and suggestions to help Extension reach out to new audiences. Miller asked that they let her know of any groups, individuals, events or media outlets that they could reach out to in order to reach new audiences.

Set Future Meeting Dates, Times & Locations – The council set upcoming meeting dates. The Council will meet on March 27 at the Springfield office, June 26 at 7 pm at the Logan County Extension office and September 25 at 7 pm at the Sangamon County Extension office.

Chairman Mendenhall adjourned the meeting at 8:28 pm.