

Unit 24 – University of Illinois Extension Council Minutes

February 3, 2022 – 6 p.m. – Via Zoom – Approved 8/4/22

Call to Order - Unit 24 Extension Council meeting on February 3, 2022 was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Angie Messmer.

Council Members Present: Stacy Phillips, Jennifer Parker, Tony Eckert, Jimmy Richey, Lisa Miller, and Holly Healy

Staff Present: Angie Messmer and Sheila Stamer, John Shadowens, Bronwyn Aly, Liz Cooley-Questelle, and Melissa Wilson

Council Members Absent: Kim Bainbridge, Natalie Bonnell, Shelley Friend, Kate Miller, Hank Oldham, Doug Patton, Donna Rumsey, Mallory Thompson, and Alex Watkins

Minutes from November 4, 2021 – Motion to approve the November minutes by Tony Eckert, Second by Stacy Phillips; All in Favor – Motion Carried.

FY22 2nd Quarterly Report – Trust – Fiscal report was reviewed. Motion made to approve the fiscal report by Holly Healy, Second by Stacy Phillips, Motion Carried.

Program Updates

Angie Messmer introduced Bronwyn Aly, Small Farms and Local Food Systems Educator. Bronwyn noted that she is in year 2 of collaboration grant with campus studying Sustainable Insect Control in High Tunnels. She is also working on a Determinate Tomato Variety Trial studying tomatoes in various substrates. She also has various demonstration plots. Bronwyn also noted an Ag Survey is open through March, highlighted several upcoming presentations and stated they were working to expand the Master Gardener program.

Angie introduced Melissa Wilson, 4-H Youth Development Educator, who provided an update on 4-H. She noted that the Unit currently has 29 clubs, which includes 259 members and 81 volunteers. She is currently working on a new member toolkit and highlighted upcoming 4-H programming. In youth development, extension staff are providing programming to schools on college/career readiness

Healthy living, environmental education and food access.

Angie introduced Lizz Cooley-Questelle, who provided an update on SNAP Ed. The goals of this program currently include improving diet quality and physical education while also increasing food access and community partnerships. They are working on messaging, including videos, to help with these goals.

Angie introduced John Shadowens, who provided an update on the HEAT (Healthy Equity Achieved Together) program. This program is currently targeting Gallatin County and Cairo. Lt. Gov. Stratton will be in Cairo on Feb. 8 to meet with the team working on this project.

Civil Rights/Compliance Review

Angie covered civil rights compliance and informed the council that the next review for the Unit will be in May 2023.

Staff Retirements

Angie noted that two staff persons have retired: Sandy Ethridge and Robin Johnston. Additionally, she noted that one staff person has resigned, Pam Haywood from the White Co. office, which leaves a SNAP Ed Extension Program Coordinator position vacancy. Angie also noted that a marketing coordinator position is being considered for the unit.

Council Replacements

Angie noted that 7 council members will be replaced in August due to term expirations. Sheila stated that the Extension Council forms must be submitted by June 15.

Other Items

Angie informed the council that there is still the possibility for Kassy Scates, Gallatin County 4-H EPC, to be housed at the Gallatin County School. She is currently housed in the Saline Office.

Angie noted that the Camp Whitetail program is still in the works.

Next Meeting Scheduled For

May 5, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Adjourn

Motion made to adjourn at 7:08 p.m. by Stacy Phillips, Second by Tony Eckert; All in Favor – Motion Carried.

–Respectfully Submitted By: Holly Healy