

Minutes
University of Illinois Extension
Unit 13 Extension Council Meeting

August 9, 2018

Call to order: The Unit 13 Council Meeting was called to order at 6:54.

Attendance: Barb Schumacher, Charles Alt, Deb Fruitt, Brad Zwilling, Carl Sparenberg, Kirsten Wyatt. Staff: Ginger Boas, Myla Munro, Mynda Tracy, Ryan Pankau

County Director, Ginger Boas, welcomed new members and staff. She then reviewed the Extension mission. She provided each member with written council information, a job description, and

County Director Report: Ginger provided the report to the council.

A. Staffing:

a. New Hires

- Youth Educator- Myla Munro, Champaign / Ford Counties
- Youth Educator- Mynda Tracy, Vermilion / Iroquois Counties
- Program Coordinator, FCS, Brook Shrewsberry
- Community Worker, SNAP-Ed, Lauren Scott
- Community Worker, EFNEP, Triena Billips

b. Open Positions:

- Extension Program Coordinator, Master Naturalist
- Extension Program Coordinator, FCS
- Extension Program Coordinator, 4-H, Iroquois
- EFNEP Community Workers (3 open positions)

B. Budget Review: Ginger provided a year-end budget review. The Unit collected 97.8% of local budgeted. The ending balance was \$560,865.82. This will position Unit 13 to maintain programming with continued uncertainty with state funding. For FY 19 budget, funding is similar to FY 18. Hiring will continue to be limited to replacement of key positions unless alternative sources of funding from grants/gifts are obtained.

VI. Old Business

Vermilion County Federation / Foundation: Due to the dissolution of the Vermilion County. Funds from the foundation were transferred to the Vermilion County 4-H Federation with the intent of starting a new foundation in the future. This process is still pending. Ginger is working with key partners to find interested people to serve on

a foundation. Members from the council and Champaign County Extension Education Foundation have agreed to assist with the transition.

Educator Reports: Educators provided information on current programs and introduced the program action plans to the council. Boas reminded the council of the need insure compliance with the civil rights mandate and actively reach out to underserved audiences. The following program areas were included:

- (1) Family Life- Chelsey Gerstenecker
- (2) SNAP-Ed- Caitlin Kownacki
- (3) EFNEP- Melissa Schumacher
- (4) Horticulture-Ryan Pankau
- (5) Consumer Economics-Kathy Sweedler
- (5) Youth/4-H-Myla Munro, Mynda Tracy

VII. New business

A. Council input on Unit Needs/Programming

Unit educators present provided an overview over view of Extension Programs and plans for the upcoming year. A survey listing major issue areas was provided to each council member with discussion on issues and solicitation of input from members. This will provide a basis for program planning in the future.

B. Meeting Dates

- 1 November 2018*
- 14 January 2019*
- 28 February 2019*
- 11 April 2019*

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

ATTACHMENT 1

County Extension Director Report

BUDGET:

- The unit has still not received any County Board Match. There are efforts to investigate the status of these funds within IDOA.
- We have used a higher percentage of Federal Funding to off-set part of the shortfall.
- Higher percentage of grant funding

POSITIONS

RECENTLY FILLED AND PENDING POSITIONS

- Horticulture Program Coordinator, Champaign, Tabitha Elder
- 4-H Coordinator, Champaign- Amy Cain
- SNAP-ED and EFNEP Community Workers- 6 new staff added in Champaign County
- Office Support Assistant - Part-time Extra Help position being filled by Erin Watson

RECENT STAFFING CHANGES

- Jamie Boas moved to Piatt and Dewitt Counties January 2018
- Hiring for 2 Youth Development Educator in Champaign County February 2018

FOUNDATION ACTIVITY AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2-Unit Scholarships for students enrolling in ACES
- 12 – Scholarships for adults and high school students in Champaign County
- Ford-Iroquois Foundation held their annual auction to raise funds for the \$20 program

fee for all 4-H members in Ford and Iroquois Counties. The foundation funds over 600 youth each year. They also fund 4-H members who need help for camp, workshops, etc.

- Champaign County Extension Education Foundation funds scholarships, Master Gardener fees, 4-H programming, and 4-H member help to attend camp and other activities.

GRANTS

- SARE Grant- \$26,000 with Sola Gratia and Salt & Light- Fresh Produce for Low income with Cooking Class
 - Grant- \$50,000 ADM Post Harvest Loss Project (2nd Year)
 - Prosperity Garden and Danville Area College (DACC)
 - Portable Wash Station
 - Cool trailer
 - Building- Use Building Trades at DACC
 - Rantoul Food Hub Project on the Old Air Force Base
 - Cooling Trailers (2)
 - Portable wash station on a trailer
 - United Way- Potential for up to \$30,000 for Financial Literacy Year 2. Meeting for final Interview will take place this month.
 - 4-H Foundation Grants- New Initiatives aimed at reaching new audiences
 - AHEC-Rural Health Grants have changed focus to health careers for youth. The youth team will pursue opportunities for continued partnership.
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PROGRAM INFORMATION

YOUTH/4-H PROGRAMS

- Approval for 2 Educators with funding for one coming from State 4-H (IDOA). One will cover Champaign and Ford Counties and one will cover Vermilion and Iroquois Counties. The positions should be posted by the end of this week.
- Food to Fork initiative with Earth Partners has expanded. There are 11 from Unity HS, 8 from Rantoul, and 10 from Central. They will be trained as teen teachers to reach youth in Unit 7, St. Thomas, and Rantoul and Thomasboro Elementary School.
- Food Science at University of Illinois. Hands on activities targeted to up to 30 high school students. The students will come to campus to learn about Food Science majors, tour the production facility, and do hands-on activities related to Food Science chemistry, microbiology, production, and safety. Graduate students are spearheading this opportunity. This fits into the ACES initiative of student recruitment of 4-H members.
- Welcome to the Real World programs are planned for high schools in all four counties

this spring. This program provides students with career exploration, budgeting, and a real-life financial simulation based on the career chosen.

- Career Readiness- Working with the trades, local high schools and the University

CONSUMER ECONOMICS- KATHY SWEEDLER

- 85 Master Money Mentors trained and providing individual financial education.
- Money Mentors are also involved in Education in area Elementary and Middle Schools.
- Fourteen Student interns are being trained this semester to work with College Students on finances. Campus activities, presentations, and individual office hours to work with students included in the internship each semester.
- April- America Saves Month.

TELEVISION / RADIO

- Horticulture Program conducts twice weekly TV programs on-location called "In the Garden" as segment of WCIA the Morning Show - responsible for ideas, coordination and on-air interviewing of guests. Videos can be seen online at www.illinoishomepage.net; monthly guest on WCIA TV CI Living; WILL TV Mid-American Gardener panelist, and substitute host. Re-aired on PBS stations statewide. Video also available online and audio rebroadcast on WILL AM.
- Kathy Sweedler conducts bi-weekly television program in the area of personal finance.

NEWSPAPERS

- Ryan Pankau, Kathy Sweedler and Chelsey Byers write Weekly newspaper column Homeowners Column for Champaign Urbana News Gazette.
- News releases sent to all newspapers in the 4 county Unit
- Number of People visiting unit website in 2017: **2,419,442**
- Web hits in January 2018 : 176,751
- Blogs, Facebook, Twitter, online news outlets (January 2018)
 - More for Your Money- 19,000 hits
 - Getting Through Tough Financial Times- 4,910 hits
 - Credit Card Smarts- 4,208 hits
 - Elder Abuse- 1,159
- Most 4-H resources are now posted online.