



Illinois Extension

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Unit 26 Extension Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Franklin County Extension Office

1212 Route 14 West, Benton 62812

6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Council members present: Jason Mohr, Gail Johnston, Josh Reinhart, Jennifer Barbour, Amy Epplin, Harvey Gillespie, Jean Alstat

Staff members present: Andy Fisher, Cindy Bauman, Talon Becker, Robin Ridgley, Carrie Eldridge, Toni Kay Wright, Jennifer Newbury, Jenny Povolish

CALL TO ORDER

Jennifer Barbour called the Extension Council meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. She led an ice breaker activity.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lynn provided a brief overview of Illinois Extension funding sources, and the Extension Council reviewed the Unit 26 Trust financial report. Jason made a motion to accept the financial report. Josh seconded. All were in favor; the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Council orientation – Lynn Heins provided a 20-minute Extension Council orientation.

Engaging diverse audiences – Lynn Heins posed a question to the Extension Council, *“In your community, what area or group of people do you think have been underserved, and could be helped by an educational effort?”* The council brainstormed groups and communities. The Hispanic population near Chester, Percy, Murphysboro and Carbondale were identified as an underserved audience. The aging population in general was also identified.

Officer nominations and elections

- Current Slate:
 - Chair – Jenifer Barbour
 - Vice Chair – Harvey Gillespie

- Secretary – Sherry Wilson
- Proposed Slate:
 - Chair – Jenifer Barbour
 - Vice Chair – Harvey Gillespie
 - Secretary – Sherry Wilson

Larry made a motion to elect the proposed slate of officers as presented. Amy seconded. All were in favor; the motion carried.

Open meetings act training – Lynn shared that the open meetings act training link is broken, and she will update the council once it is up again. All council members should complete the training. Some council members already have the certification.

Update in/out check signors

- Franklin signors – Lynn Heins, Gay Bowlin, Cindy Bauman, Ian Perkins, Marc Lamczyk
 - Recommendation: remove Ian Perkins and Marc Lamczyk and add Talon Becker
- Jackson signors – Lynn Heins, Brenda Jones, Jessica Grammer, Maggie Ray (no change)
- Perry signors – Lynn Heins, Rhonda Shubert, Josh Gross (no change)
- Randolph signors – Lynn Heins, Michaela Castens, Toni Kay Wright, Greg Jones
 - Recommendation: Remove Greg Jones and add Sarah Ward
- Williamson signors – Lynn Heins, Amber Anderson, Robin Ridgley, Toni Kay Wright, Ramona Girtman (no change)

Amy made a motion to accept the above changes to the check signors for the in/out accounts. Josh seconded. All were in favor; the motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS & DISCUSSION/Q&A

The Educators and Franklin County Extension Staff presented verbal reports.

Next Council Meeting

Location: Jackson County Extension Office

Date: Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURN

Josh made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Gail seconded. All were in favor; the motion carried.



Unit 26 Extension Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 6 p.m.
Jackson County Extension Office
402 Ava Road, Murphysboro (with Zoom option)

MINUTES

Council members in attendance: Jennifer Barbour, Gail Johnston, Amy Eplin, Nannette Vaughn, Jean Alstat, Sarah Ward, Harvey Gillespie

Staff in attendance: Robin Ridgley, Katie Bell, Misty Bernard, Lynn Heinz, Nick Brown, Carrie Eldridge, Becky Needham

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Jennifer Barbour at 6 p.m. Jennifer introduced ice breaker game to be done while introductions took place.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared by Terri Cagle and given by Lynn, featured simplified format and emailed to attendees.

- Motion to accept made and seconded, passed

OLD BUSINESS

- Secretary of State Open Meetings Act online training is still down. Council members were reminded that they are still required to take this when it becomes available again online

NEW BUSINESS

- Excite Grant New Position, Vaccine Champion/Coordinator, Jennifer Newberry
 - 60/40 Vaccine awareness/Snap-Ed
 - Provides education and
 - Assesses (survey) reason for hesitations
- Needs Assessment – Lynn
 - Presentation on the purpose for a needs assessment and our Unit-specific programs
 - DEI Goal: Target at least one high need community in each county with a signature program or project.
 - Lynn lead a Polling event using phone/texting to answer questions about needs in each county/community. The questions and answers follow:

1. What are the most pressing issues in your communities/counties relating to health/wellness or food?
 - Health
 - Obesity
 - Isolation
 - Lack of fresh foods
 - Food insecurities
 - Transportation
 - Mental Health
 - Food and nutrition
 - Substance abuse

2. Thinking about the county where you reside, which town/community do you feel is the highest need in relation to health, wellness or food?
 - Tilden
 - Chester
 - Carbondale
 - Alexander county
 - Herrin
 - Tamaroa
 - Johnston City
 - Percy
 - Elkhaville area
 - Cutler
 - Willisville

3. Do you have any idea for promoting access to more healthy foods in your community?
 - Gardens
 - Transportation
 - Education
 - Delivery
 - More access locations
 - Vouchers
 - Local farmers providing food to local food pantries and senior centers for their meal programs

4. How important do you think regions agricultural research and extension centers are in relation to the ability of Illinois Extension to serve the agricultural community?
 - Very
 - I don't know
 - Scale from 1-10, an 8
 - Very important. Chemical free gardening/farming research is very important also.

5. What ideas do you have to reach more volunteers for 4-H program/clubs, or Master Gardner/Naturalist?
 - Figure out how to make the commitment less daunting for master programs
 - Reaching out to schools, specifically clubs that need volunteer hours.
 - Possibly utilize SIU students, If they volunteer a certain number of hours that can go their transcript. It is through the Saluki volunteer Corps.
 - AmeriCorps
 - What about reaching out to high schools that have work study programs to get credit
 - Candy Cane Lane info table

6. What do you think is the BEST way to market 4-H to youth in non-traditional settings?
 - Libraries
 - Low income housing
 - Guest speaking at PTO at Schools
 - Randolph county housing department in Sparta has a huge multipurpose room
 - After school programs
 - FB campaign
 - Baking “Camp” on a Saturday afternoon
 - Girl scout clubs can also be 4-H clubs
 - Promote scholarship opportunities from participating.

STAFF REPORTS

- **JACKSON County staff reports** given by:
 - Katie Bell
 - Nick Brown
 - Misty
 - Carrie Eldridge
 - Becky Needham
 - Robin Ridgley

- **Vacancies opening** within the unit coming soon, but not posted.
 - Office Support – split between two counties, Perry 2 days and Franklin 3 days
 - Horticulture Educator - Should open February or March

NEXT MEETING

The next council meeting will be held at the Perry County Extension office in Pinckneyville on Tuesday January 11 from 6-7:30 p.m. (action planning building on needs assessment from this evening).

- **Adjourn-** Motion made, seconded, so moved at 7:35

Submitted by R. Ridgley 11/10/21



Illinois Extension

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Unit 26 Extension Council Meeting

Meeting #3 of 4

Theme: Action Planning

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

6 p.m.

No minutes available as meeting was canceled.



Illinois Extension

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**Unit 26 Extension Council Meeting
Meeting #4 of 4
Theme: Action Planning and Program Review
MINUTES**

Date: Tuesday, March 15

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Randolph County Farm Bureau, 1403 N Hillcrest Dr, Sparta, IL 62286

With Virtual Zoom Option:

Meeting URL: <https://illinois.zoom.us/j/82529510992?pwd=UFIPSHFDYkg2RzRpZW1Xd05UT1h0UT09>

Meeting ID: 825 2951 0992

Password: 735332

Members present: Jennifer Barbour, Josh Reinhardt, Amy Epplin, Jason Moore

Staff present: Lynn Heins

CALL TO ORDER

Jennifer Barbour called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. She led a welcome activity.

MINUTES

The minutes of the previous council meeting were reviewed and approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report was reviewed and approved.

UNIT UPDATES

Lynn Heins provided an extension update, including staffing and fiscal information.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of Current Programs and Data – Lynn Heins conducted a review of current programs and data. She led an Action Planning Activity where underserved audiences were identified by council members.

ADJOURN