



## Coös County Extension Advisory Council

### MEETING Minutes

Monday, April 5th, 2021 @ 6:00 pm and Monday April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

<https://unh.zoom.us/j/99769055341> Password: coos

OR 646 876 9923 - Meeting ID: 997 6905 5341

#### Attendance:

- ➔ 4/5: Aidan Wiggin, Brendan Prusik, Heidi Barker, Chris Whiting, Nick Rowley, Lori Langlois, Lauren Tyler, Amanda Royce
- ➔ 4/12 – Brendan Prusik, Nick Rowley, Scott Losier, Aidan Wiggin, Heidi Barker, Zeanny Egea, Amanda Royce, Chris Whiting, Mary Tichy, Rob Théberge, Rep Eamon Kelley, Mike Young

**Absent both:** Isabella Gaetjens-Oleson, Ben Gaetjens-Oleson, Ray Bell, Ray Gorman, Andrew Paine, Debbie Joyce,

1. Note: April 5<sup>th</sup> – Spectrum Internet was down; vote to hold full meeting April 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - a. Watched Chris Whiting’s update video
  - b. Brief overview from Lauren Tyler
  - c. Amanda Royce introduced self; shadowing Larry for Barry camp since October; met weekly before his retirement
2. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. See UNH Box file storage of misc. meeting resources:  
<https://unh.app.box.com/s/v21hyukn2fznj6ifxm7w81sxeapzb89>
3. Amanda Royce Interview – Hosted by Mike Young (25 min) ([materials in linked folder](#))
  - a. Very positive review of Amanda, very enthusiastic candidate
  - b. Target of May 3<sup>rd</sup> start date
4. Youth and family program ([materials in linked folder](#))
  - a. Lauren Tyler – youth participant, experience with 4-H (20 min)
    - i. 4/5/21 → over 10 yrs in 4H in NH; 10+ Project areas
    - ii. Interested in joining the council
    - iii. VERY enthusiastic 4H advocate!

- b. Chris Whiting answering your questions about video\* (10 min)  
\*(in linked folder)
  - i. Seeds being sent to students; several competitions going on; Ex: Biggest sunflower
  - ii. Backyard broiler project – 3 families participating – 40 birds total
  - iii. Depth of projects
    - 1. Soft skills, communication, record keeping, problem solving, career opportunities all embedded into 4H projects [Fun projects that are also teaching life skills]
    - 2. Kids graduating from 4H commonly have skills that set them above their peers!
- c. Youth and family program – receiving your feedback – Mike Young (10 min)
  - i. Focus areas:
    - 1. 4H Youth Development
    - 2. Resiliency
    - 3. Health & Wellness
    - 4. Science Education
  - ii. COVID
    - 1. Online food map
    - 2. Mental health services
  - iii. Funding successes
  - iv. **AC Additional areas of need suggestions:**
    - 1. Low income focus; keep up programming, great job
    - 2. Waste footprint and sustainability → What is the footprint of the programming and UNH outreach?
      - a. When things need to be individually packaged, is the waste footprint being considered?
    - 3. Home food production
      - a. Been addressed very well through workshops
        - i. Growth to processing all being covered
    - 4. Targeting kids who are wrapped up in technology/video games – finding creative ways to get them outside and moving, interacting with more peers, addressing mental health
      - a. Drones, Citizen Science Apps
- 5. Approval of Feb 1st, 2021 minutes
  - a. Edit to include: “Heidi & Zeanny brought in a panelist of community members to aid in Youth & Family program review. Contributions as follows...”
- 6. Membership

- a. Succession Plan
    - i. Mary Tichy – Treasurer → Retiring from council → Need a new Treasurer  
Kris Von Dohrmann → Term ended  
Young Person Perspective → Lauren Tyler  
  
Corey Arsenault – Cannot continue with council  
  
Ben Gaetjens-Oleson has town meetings that conflict with AC meetings
    - ii. New Member Suggestions – Get back to Scott in about 1 week with answer
      - 1. Mary will ask Wayne Saunders NHFGW
        - a. Was already asked to do 4H Advisory council
      - 2. Aidan will ask Jenn Scarinza
      - 3. Zeanny will ask Melanie Staley – Santa’s Village
  - b. Orientation for new members
    - i. Helpful as a refresher as to what to do
    - ii. Lauren Banker – Mary will look back for resources
    - iii. April 12<sup>th</sup> and May 11<sup>th</sup> 6-7pm
    - iv. If interested let Brendan know
  - c. Consideration for changes to the AC Meeting Schedule below.
    - i. Will remain as is
7. State Advisory Council Meeting: Thursday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- a. Scott and Rob T attending
  - b. Rob T will send invite to Rep Eamon Kelley
8. Coös Extension Educators’ one-minute updates. (*All Program Highlights* in linked folder)
- a. Zeanny:
    - i. New partnership: Northern Human Services – program for people with disabilities – meal kits, culinary kits, nutrition, my plate
    - ii. Cooking matters for parents – new Facebook page
    - iii. 3 Hospitals – North Country Health Consortium – Walk with Ease – staff and volunteers
    - iv. Headstart, Middle schools, food pantries
  - b. Brendan:
    - i. Move from Urban to rural areas across US – new landowners wanting to be educated on opportunities
      - 1. Pre-commercial thinning
    - ii. Online decision tool – promoting habitats → Dirt to Trees to Wildlife

- c. Chris W:
  - i. County 4H Presents – Demo Day – Need judges
    - 1. Kids orientation April 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:30-7; Judging → 24<sup>th</sup> various times all via zoom, 3 hour blocks
      - a. Rep Eamon Kelley will judge any subject area
- d. Heidi:
  - i. Master wellness volunteer training happening
  - ii. Two UNH Interns just hired
    - 1. One is a WMRHS graduation – Nutrition Connections SNAP Ed
  - iii. Healthy living wrapped up
- e. Nick:
  - i. Spring is busy!
  - ii. Beginner pig, beef, and sheep
  - iii. Pesticide training
  - iv. Pruning demonstration in Colebrook – Animal Sanctuary
  - v. North Country Lunch & Learn restarting

9. Other Business

- a. Advocacy ([materials in linked folder](#))

10. Motion to adjourn and second at 8:14pm.

**2021 Meetings (6:00 pm – all Mondays)**

- June 21, 2021 (Cookout – Location TBD) - Natural Resources
- September 13, 2021 - Food and Agriculture
- December 6, 2021 – Community and Economic Development and Budget Conversation (Snow Date 12/13/21)