Coös County Extension Advisory Council

MEETING Minutes

Monday, April 5th, 2021 @ 6:00 pm and Monday April 12th, 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 5th – Spectrum Internet was down; vote to hold full meeting April 12th.
   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/v21hyukn2fznj6ifhxm7w81sxeapzb89

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 3rd 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 12th and May 11th 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 22nd 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 23rd 6:30-7; Judging ➔ 24th 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.

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**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)