

Minutes: Piscataquis County Extension Association Executive Committee Meeting

April 9, 2018

Present:

Members: Beth McEvoy, Dottie Hadler, Karen Murphy, Richard Neal, David Bridges, Carole Boothroyd

Staff: Donna Coffin, Barbara Baker, Trisha Smith

Visitors: Gretchen Huettner

Call to Order- President Beth McEvoy called the meeting to order at 3:06 PM. George McKay is timekeeper.

Business- The minutes were accepted. The treasurer's report was unanimously accepted with request from Beth to separate budgeted (projected) columns from actual columns with bold line. Donna also mentioned that John will be attending training at UMaine regarding website updates and maintenance.

Program Updates

Highlights of the 4-H Program from Barb Baker*

- Shared pictures from public speaking contest
- Ingrid Halverson and Rebecca Huettner moved on to the state public speaking contest
- A new club was started at the Thompson Free Library
- Tractor Supply infographic was shared indicating 35,000 children were impacted through their support of 4-H, and they will be holding their paper clover campaign over the next two weeks
- People's Choice Club Exhibit Award for fair
- Summer of Science program: seeking an adult to supervise two teens
- 4-H@UMaine May 18-19

Piscataquis Activities from Donna Coffin*

- One-to-one contacts in March totaled sixteen individuals

- Soil & Water Conservation District in collaboration with UMaine Climate Change will be hosting a Climate Change Presentation in Greenville on May 17th. Donna cannot make it, but asked if another extension representative could attend
- Donna will be attending the New England Livestock Expo on May 17th
- Other staff trainings/laptop request in Donna's report

Home Horticulture Report presented by Trisha Smith & Donna Coffin*

- Richard volunteered to start up the watering system at the school garden
- One Tomato will be represented at the Black Fly Festival on June 2nd (volunteers?); 400 plants on order through Kirby Ellis; other outlets to promote the program?
- Fasciated pussy willow slips available to take home and start in your perennial gardens
- Dinner on April 24th regarding making Dover-Foxcroft an age-friendly community (flyer was passed around)

** Written reports submitted*

Unfinished Business

Small Ruminant Training

- April 14th at Foxcroft Veterinary Clinic
- George offered to help bring tables on Friday, April 13th
- Beth is working on coordinating refreshments
- Other details including source of goats, topics to be covered, infectious disease precautions

GrowME

- Carol and Beth assisted Walter Boomsma with the GrowME program
- 630 students served
- Suggestion that the University's research farm in Monmouth could be source for heirloom apples for kids to sample

- Seeking suggestions on recruiting additional volunteers
- Invite Walter to upcoming meeting to speak about the program

Upcoming Meeting/Tours

- Tour of Roger's Farm and new Plant, Animal and Insect Laboratory on July 25th
- In conjunction with Penobscot Extension Executive Committee meeting

East Sangerville Grange - Karen Murphy

- Looking at connecting with other community organizations
- Common meeting times
- Avoiding duplication of efforts
- Cross promotion of events

Recruitment for 4-H

- Ideas to recruit more families to lead up activities
- Reaching out to homeschoolers
- Value in student leadership with appropriate adult supervision
- Beth mentioned using Small Ruminants workshop to promote 4-H

Grant-Funded Study - Barb Baker

- Grant spearheaded by UMaine faculty to study the work climate and funded through USDA/AFRI
- Piscataquis County along with a county in Oregon
- Will survey middle-level students
- Listening tours
- Executive committee requested a report on the results of this work

New Business

- Talk to Fair Association regarding hosting a horse show

- Richard offered to frame pictures for Extension office that represent Extension programs and mission
- Dottie mentioned a Craft Fair event at Tractor Supply on May 12
- Ideas for Committee recruitment were discussed

Meeting adjourned at 5:03 PM

Next meeting: June 11th at 3:00 pm at Cooperative Extension Office, Dover-Foxcroft

Submitted by David Bridges 5/5/2018