

Monday, January 6th, 2025 1:00 PM

Ag Extension Office, 2nd Floor
1417 Murfreesboro Pike

Members Present: Mr. Reggie Marshall- Chair via Zoom, Mr. Mac Wilson, Mr. Jim Barnes, Ms. Gigi Drumright and Joan Clayton-Davis via Zoom

Members Absent: Barbara Devaney

Open-call to order- Mac Wilson called the meeting to order as there was a quorum. Ms. Drumright made a motion and Mr. Reggie Marshall seconded.

Reading and approval of previous minutes- Joan Clayton-Davis

Motion to read the minutes- Gigi Drumright seconds.

Mac Wilson right motions to approve minutes, Reggie Marshall seconds

Quorum voted to approve minutes.

Officer report- Mr. Marshall motions the vote for Melissa Standley position. Joan Clayton-Davis made motion to approve. Gigi Drumright seconds the motion. The motion is approved. Vote was passed at 1:45pm. We will physically sign the motion when we meet in April.

Extension Program Updates:

Amy Dunlap

- Had a big highlight with the Master Gardener State Conference in partnership with Williamson County Master Gardeners. Over 200 MGs attended the conference, which focused on highlighting urban food production and volunteer efforts to support. They toured Cheekwood, Arrington Vineyards, Ellington Ag, and the Giving Gardens. Workshops were hands-on, including topics like fermentation, flower pressing, and pruning. She also did the Welcome Home TN fall horticulture class in October with Shana at TSU. Altogether 25 people participated in learning about lawn management, landscape design, pest and disease management, and soils. She will soon kickoff the new Master Gardener Intern class. She has around 30 people signed up and it will now be during the morning at the Central Region office at Marchant Drive. She is finalizing the speakers and field trips for this year's class.

Cheryl Johnson

- Is ready to start back with her senior sites and will work with 2 new ones soon. She still works with Fifty Forward group. She has also began working with 18 students at Jare Baxter Middle school.

Hannah Decker

- Concluded the 4-H Speech contest. She has had great participation in the Clover Bowl and hopes to have 3 teams. She held first Horse Club meeting at the UT Central region office. The club focused on anatomy, breeds, feed, and colors. ~5 attendees and an adult volunteer. She has begun planning for clubs and groups in the spring.

Charslyn Guilyot

- Has been getting her paperwork to prepare for EFNEP. She worked with a group of veterans and will be doing a food demonstration with TN Deaf Group on healthy eating.

Alexis Trice

- She has been programming with her same partner as program assistant. With this partner she has been teaching a curriculum called Mending hearts. The curriculum involves breathing exercises and breathing exercises. She has been getting acclimated to her new position and getting certifications to teach certain classes.

Andy Lantz

- The plan for the new office move should be sometime in February hopefully. The location is 1281 Murfreesboro Pike Nashville, TN 37217.

Ebone Colclough

- Has transitioned to a new position that works more with TNCEP. She has started on boarding with the Western Region. She got more funding for SNAP Ed.

Staff Updates:

- Melissa Standley has taken over the FCS agent position. Melissa has a vast knowledge of agriculture and culinary experience.

New Business:

- The new Deputy Director position requires a bachelor's degree and 3 years with Metro. Since no one meets the requirements, Andy hopes to get the requirements changed and reach out to Metro Council. The position will be filled until someone meets the requirements or until Metro makes the requirements that are attainable for our office.
- There are two new program assistant positions that should be available soon. One is an adult program assistant position and the other is a youth program assistant. One is grant funded.
- We had an internal audit in 2020 and about the programs we offer and the audiences we reach. There were 6 recommendations and Andy has been working since August to get them implemented.
- The next meeting date should be the first Monday on April 7th at 1:00 pm here at the new UT/TSU Extension Davidson office.

Adjourn

- Reggie Marshall made the motion to dismiss- Jim Barnes seconds- Meeting dismissed.