



Coös County Extension Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2024
Barry Conservation Camp

Council Present: Melanie Staley, Sue Greene, Ericka Canales, Ray Gorman, Aidan Howry, Brenda Tilton

Staff Present: Heidi Barker, Will Hastings, Ray Berthiaume, Chris Whiting, Andy Schafermeyer, Zeanny Egea, Kate Guerdat, Paul Chiarantona

The focus of meeting was to recognize Council Members and the commitment they make to UNH Extension and Coös County. 4-H Camp provided the traditional lasagna meal with all the fixings and desserts by Camp Kitchen Manager Linda!

- Special recognition was presented to Aidan Howry, who completed 3-2 year terms on the Council. Thank you!
- Paul shared updates on Council organization for fall 2024.
- 4-H Staff organized a demo shooting sports experience with key BCC staff.
- Council Members shared their thoughts with the following intro activity:

✓ **What do you already know about UNH Extension Education & 4-H Youth Development Programs?**

(add one idea / stickie note – as many thoughts / experiences as you want)

- So many awesome resources available! Looking forward to the September Expo
- Christine helped frame how the 4-H Programs can be run by clubs, through school, or as individual program experience.
- There is a garden program that helps kids try out planting and managing their own garden, recordkeeping, etc.
- Barry Camp is a great way to introduce kids to 4-H.

✓ **What has been the most IMPORTANT take away from your Council role this year?**

(please share one idea / stickie note, as many ok!)

- Learning about nutrition / wellness programs in our community
- There is evident and abundant new ENERGY with our new staff! And continued passion and energy with veteran staff. New ideas, events, and continued great programming.
- AC meetings have renewed direction, feel organized, and feel like they are asking for more specific feedback from council members. Staff are doing a great job reviewing their programs. Nice work!

- 2. The commitment that the group has towards the county.
- Learn about county forest
- Everyone has been so welcoming and willing to answer and questions I've had.

Meeting notes provided by H. Barker



Coös County Extension Advisory Council
In Person/Hybrid
Zoom Available by request
Monday, March 4, 2024
6:00 – 7:30 pm

Purpose:

- Build on-going UNH Extension needs and planning
- Learn more about UNH Extension Health & Well-Being Programs
- Engage with Extension programming through breakout session

Materials Distributed:

- Agenda
- January Meeting Minutes DRAFT
- UNH Extension Health & Well-Being 2023 County Highlights

Meeting Agenda/Minutes:

TIME	TOPIC
5:30 – 6:00	Early Birds: Arrive & Grab a Bite to Eat (it will still be available at 6 pm) No Jan B. this month – Pizza and snacks (Please let Heidi know of any dietary-pizza preferences)
6:00	Welcome & Introductions – Ericka Setting the Stage - Come prepared to answer of the three following questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did you attend any UNH Extension events recently? If yes, what did you learn? 2. What do you know about UNH Extension Health & Well-Being programs, beyond our nutrition work? 3. Did you meet with a Coös Extension staff member? If yes, share your knowledge gained and actions taken? Review Agenda
6:15	Approval of January Meeting Minutes – Carol Jean
6:20	Extension Budget Process & Staffing Update – Heidi & Team Staff Announcements, March 18 th Delegation/Approval of County Budget Meeting, Other
6:30	Health & Well-Being Program Team – Mike Young, Program Leader & Kendra Lewis, State Specialist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ Program Team Impacts and Learning about our Extension Mental & Behavioral Health work



Extension



7:15	Council Engagement – Break Out Groups (2 groups): What did you hear about Health & Well-Being that sparks needs, thoughts, on-going program development ? What excites you about Coös County connections ?
7:30	<p>Final Remarks, Questions, Reflections, Next Steps - Ericka</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Meeting: May 6 & September, Time & Place to be announced! (Ray & Will) • Passing of the Program Hats: add your name to the Program Hat if you want to discuss more with a staff member/team. (Please note: Health & Well-being & 4-H have more than 1 staff member, identify staff member(s)' name(s) if you want to speak to an individual or both) <p>Other Safe Trip Home</p>

Council Meeting Dates:

- May 6, 6:00 pm – field visit plans
- June 3, 6:00 pm – 4-H Camp/Recognition
- September 9 or 16, 6:00 pm – field visit
- November 4, 6:00 pm

Action Steps:

Coös County Advisory Council
3/4/2024
meeting minutes

minutes kept by: W. Hastings

Present: Ericka, Lori, Ray B., Ray G., Aidan, Sharon, Melanie, Eamon, Sue
Staff: Ray B, Will, Chris, Zeanny, Andy, Heidi, Mike Young, Kendra Lewis

1. Intro Questions

- a. (q1) Sharon L. connect w/Zeanny and Christine
 - b. (q1) Ray G – looking forward to summer 4H and other Extension connections.
 - c. (q2) Aidan – discussed previous work interaction with Nutrition Connection and Health/Wellbeing. Excited to see UNH involvement with NCFAC.
- A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ray Bell. Ray Gorman seconded the motion.
 - Announcements (HB)
 - Delegation will do final approval of County Budget on March 18th
 - RG – Gave more detailed updates about the budget process and encouraged members to attend.
 - Part-time admin assistant has left position. Share this position with people who may be interested.
 - Adian may have a contact for the job.
 - Ericka shared more updates about AmeriCorps.
 - Health and Wellbeing Speakers – Dr. Michael Young & Dr. Kendra Lewis
 - (MY) Health & Well-Being Program Updates
 - One-pager highlights
 - Work on Systems level
 - direct assistance and education
 - Programs offered in Coös from other Extension Staff
 - (KL) Mental & Behavioral Health Programming Presentation
 - Slides included in materials.
 - Council Engagement, breakout groups
 - Is there a way to expand mental health offerings to a younger age bracket?
 - Enjoyed the systems-level approach. Interested to hear about the Youth Facing Adversity UNH course.
 - Lori highlighted the need for mental health first-aid training for educators in Coös.
 - H&N aspect – what is UNH doing to push staff to be up to current research?
 - May 11th – Spring into 4H event
 - Animals projects
 - STEM projects
 - Info sessions on how to go further w/animal projects
 - Open to kids from other counties
 - Next meetings:

- May 6th: Field visit plans – agricultural site visits Southern Coös
- June 3rd: 4-H Camp/Recognition
- September 16th – Lancaster Fairgrounds, Outdoor Career Expo will be set up – forestry themed.
- November 4
- September 17th is the Outdoor Career Expo at the Lancaster Fairgrounds
 - Ray is seeking volunteers for this program, reach out if interested.
 - Equipment, demos, vendor booths, recruiters
 - Currently 24+ vendors enrolled.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by: Sharon L.

The motion was seconded by: Ray G.

Coös County Extension Advisory Council
In Person
Zoom Available by request
Monday, September 11, 2023
6:00 – 8:00 pm

MINUTES

Purpose:

- Set the stage for County Advisory Council 2023 – 24
- Engage with Food & Ag Programming
- Goal Setting for 2023 - 24

Materials Distributed:

- Agenda
- June Meeting Minutes (To be distributed)
- Council Membership List

Meeting Agenda/Minutes:

TIME	TOPIC
5:30 – 6:00	Early Birds: Arrive & Grab a Bite to Eat (it will still be available at 6 pm)
6:00	Welcome & Introductions - Heidi Barker Review Agenda
6:15	Approval of June Meeting Minutes – Carol Jean
6:20	Election of 2023 – 24 Slate of Officers – Scott Stepanian Chair – Ericka Canales, Vice Chair – Melanie Staley, Secretary – Carol Jean
6:30	Introduction. of Potential & New Council Members – Ericka Canales
6:45	Shaping the Extension Advisory Council Role with Break Out Discussion – Paul Chiarantona
7:15	Ag & Food Program Review – Will Hastings & Kelly McAdam
7:45	Scheduling Meeting Dates & Times for 2023 – 24 – Ericka & Heidi
8:00	Final Remarks, Questions, Reflections, Next Steps



MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT: Ericka Canales, Ray Bell, Scott Stepanian, Melanie Staley, Ray Gorman, Lori Langlois, Aidan Howry, Sharon Lane, Brenda Tilton, Sue Greene, Amy Dorr

Staff: Heidi Barker, Zeanny Egea, Andy Schafermeyer, Ray Berthiaume, Will Hastings, Chris Whiting, Paul Chiarantona

- **Welcome & Introductions:** Heidi opened the meeting, introducing Ericka who provided a moment of reflection for 9/11. Announced that dinner was provided by Jan & Ray Berthiaume. Round robin introductions and reviewed agenda for the evening.
- **Review of minutes:** Corrections made, Heidi will make changes. Moved by Ray G., seconded by Ericka. Approved by all with corrections.
- **Election of 2023 – 24 Officers:** Current Vice Chair Scott S. made a motion to accept the slate of officers: Chair – Ericka Canales, Vice Chair – Melanie Staley, Secretary – Carol Jean. Seconded by Ray B. Approved by all.
- **Introduction of Potential & New Council Members:** Ericka facilitated the introduction of new council members by introducing Sue Greene, followed by Ray G. introducing Sharon Lane and Zeanny introducing Brenda Tilton. Brenda was still considering the position. (Since the Council meeting she has agreed to officially join.)
- **Shaping the Extension Advisory Council Role with Break Out Discussion:** Paul provided an overview of roles for the Council for the new year. The council broke into three groups to dialogue around the following questions:
 - 1) **Why are you interested in the work of Cooperative Extension and serving on Council?**
 - Natural fit – ag, forestry education
 - Feels like always has resources, happy to give back. Teaching, health & well-being is important too
 - Giving back to community
 - Connections with the programs – logging, maple industry
 - Many years in 4-H and Coop Ext.
 - Keep meeting people, motivation
 - Find something and get done better in county
 - Public education overlap
 - Connection with youth
 - Learning about programs I don't know
 - Connections and opportunities
 - Long time resident
 - community builder aspect
 - sees a need to promote what we already do
 - previous experiences with Extension programming as a stakeholder (wanted a look behind the scenes)
 - our strong support for the community



2) How would you like to be involved outside the council meetings?

4-H judging at the fair

Work with Ray B.

Continue work with ag program

Working with Jumpstart Program as an advocate or host

Liked zoom webinars

Lunch and Learn seminars in winter, online access

FTS Grant – NCES serves as Fiscal Sponsor/Lori is the Executive Director

Opportunity for dialogue

Doing things between meetings is needed

Professional networking & fun networking (ex. Scott S. attending twilight meetings)

Other comments:

After being on the Council 3 years;

- Nice to have resources to help multiple businesses.
- Provides good training for employers, especially younger folks.

Newer Member

- Has had children in 4H
- Likes the involvement with and in the schools.
- Likes the ability to bring learnings back to the community.
- Would like to be able to take some professional development programs.
- Likes to be involved with/know about programs offered in the county.

- **Ag & Food Program Review:** Will presented his first program review with Ag & Food Program Leader Kelly McAdam. He highlighted the many ways he has engaged county and state resources to meet the needs of Coos County. Kelly emphasized how the entire Ag & Food Team works to support the entire state.
- **Scheduling Meeting Dates & Times for 2023 – 24:** Ericka asked if Council could continue to meet on the first Monday of the month based on the every other month schedule. Members agreed this would work. November 6, January 8, March 4, May 6, June 3 – Recognition Event. In October, there is an opportunity to host a field trip with the Delegation, Commissioner and Council to visit the County Forest in West Stewartstown. Ray would lead this. Looking at the 16th or 18th. (Postponed until Spring, 2024).
- **Meeting adjourned.**

Coös County Extension Advisory Council

In Person

**Barry Conservation Camp
3783 York Pond Rd., Berlin
Dinner @ 5:30 pm
Meeting 6:00 – 7:30 pm**

Monday, June 5, 2023

Minutes 6/5/23

1. Welcome & Introductions - Scott Losier, Chair

Attendance: Heidi Barker, Debbie Joyce, Chris Whiting, Lori Langlois, Scott Losier, Scott Stepanian, Commissioner Ray Gorman, Ray Bell, Melanie Staley, Rep Eamon Kelley, Andy Schafermeyer, Will Hastings, James McKane, Carol Jean, Ericka Canales, Joe Drake

Absent: Zeanny Egea, Aidan Howry, Jessie Paine

2. Council Milestone Recognition Heidi Barker, COA

Council members were recognized for their time committed to the advisory council. Individuals were thanked with a card from Heidi and a UNH Extension swag item of their choice. Council members are appreciated for voicing their ideas and thoughts and opinions on the many hiring committees this past year.

First Term: Scott Stepanian, Melanie Staley, Carol Jean

Rep. Kelley & Commissioner Gorman as appointed members

Third Term: Scott Losier, Debbie Joyce

3. Minutes from April Council Meeting, DRAFT & APPROVAL – Carol Jean, Secretary

Motion to approve by Ericka seconded by Lori, Approved by all.

4. Education & 4-H Youth Development Program Presentation Program Team: Joe Drake, 4 -H Volunteer Field Specialist, Chris & Andy (Tour of Camp)

Presentations were given by 3 local 4-H youth

a. Repotting Plants - growing seedlings to sprout

b. Lava Experiment - water bottle showing the interaction of oil and water

c. Chicken Showing - how to showcase a chicken at the county fair

Joe Drake, State Specialist, Volunteer Management spoke about the impact of state and county work being done to strengthen positive youth development.

5. Process to identify 3 New Council Members for Fall 2023 – 3 year term

Staff shared profiles of potential candidates.

Votes were taken by attending members on who we should reach out to first.

- a. Sue Greene (Ericka will reach out/work with Will)
- b. Sharon Lane Ray G will reach out/work with Ray B.)
- c. Brenda Tilton (Andy S. will reach out)

6. County & State Updates related to Community/Extension Needs – Rep. Kelley, Commissioner Gorman, & Paul

- a. Presenting amended budget tomorrow 6/6/23
- b. Delegation/Commissioner Luncheon in July
- c. New Admin has started for town

7. Staff Highlights – please find upcoming programs in link or sign up for newsletters

Scott Losier will be reaching his term limit this fall! We will need to fill both his Chair role and the VP chair role.

8. Other Business

- a. Ericka updates that there is an AmeriCorps Planning Grant in the works for this summer
- b. Potential staffing for a Community Economic Development position continues to be explored.

- UNH Strategic Plan

Proposed 2023 Meetings (6:00 pm – all Mondays)

- September 11 - Food & Ag Program Presentation
- October 2 – Community & Economic Development Dialogue/Budget Update
- November 6 – Natural Resources

Please follow us on social media or sign up for program specific newsletters:

- ✓ Sign up for our newsletters: [Newsletters | Extension \(unh.edu\)](#)
- ✓ Website: www.extension.unh.edu
- ✓ Facebook: [UNH Cooperative Extension - Coös County | Lancaster NH | Facebook](#)
- ✓ 4-H Facebook: [Coös County 4-H | Lancaster NH | Facebook](#)
- ✓ Barry Camp Facebook: [Barry Conservation Camp | Berlin NH | Facebook](#)

Contact Tracy if need assistance:

Email: tracy.shepard@unh.edu

Coös County Extension Advisory Council

In Person or Zoom
HYBRID meeting model

Granite State Room, Rte 3, North Country Resource Center
Lancaster, NH

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://unh.zoom.us/j/96849623220>

Monday, February 6, 2023

6:00 – 7:30 pm

1. Welcome & Introductions - Scott Losier, Chair

What is one thing you like about living in Coös County and how will that shape your involvement as a County Advisory Council member? (Chat & Newsprint)

Attendance: Christine Whiting, Amy Dorr, Debbie Joyce, Raymond Berthiaume, John Accardi, Andrew Schafermeyer, Will Hastings, Ericka Canales, Comm. Ray Gorman, Zeanny Egea, Scott Losier, Heidi Barker, Carol Jean, Ray Bell, Scott Stepanian, Aiden Howry, Eamon Kelly, Lori Langlois, Michel Young

2. Minutes from November Council Meeting – Carol Jean, Secretary
Motion to Approve by Ray B. Seconded by Ray G. approved by all.
3. Welcome New Members – Amy & Ericka (approve)
Motion to approve Amy Dorr and Erika Canales as new council members by Ray G, Seconded by Ray B. Approved by all.
4. County & State Updates related to Community Extension Needs –Rep. Kelley & Commissioner Gorman
Currently hiring a County Administrator. No current litigation. There are 3 bills in the works. First is to streamline the right to cut for landowners. Second is for farmers market programing with a possibility of 100k-600k in funding for 2 years. Third is to define the definition of a farm stand. 30% of good sold must be from the farm, the state can ask for proof of that now.
5. County Budget Process Heidi, County Office Administrator & Scott
Heidi, Scott L., Representative Kelly, and Commissioner Gorman attended a delegation budget meeting last week. The next step is to vote for approval at their next meeting in March (March 20 at 10am). There was a good turn out last week and it is beneficial to have advisory council members in attendance.



6. Understanding Pronouns: Why an Extension volunteer or staff member might consider sharing as part of their work. Mike Young, Program Leader, Health & Well-Being **New name tags are being made and though optional, council members are encouraged to display individual pronouns. We are aiming to create an inclusive environment for education to happen. Providing pronouns models inclusivity and provides a comfortable space for learning.**
7. 2022 UNH Extension Maynard & Audrey Heckel Award Presentation – Zeanny Egea, Program Manager, Health & Well-Being
Congratulations to Zeanny for receiving this award! Zeanny thanked Heidi for her early guidance. Zeanny moved to the area and realized Coos was the unhealthiest county in the state. She has work on many projects focusing on community involvement to local government leadership and helping low-income families. She has provided many healthy choices and resources to Coos County residents. With her award moneys she plans to help fund some of those current projects. Zeanny notes that we have a full volunteer cohort at 40 and started a waiting list with 10 more future volunteers.
8. A Community Need: Council – Staff Team at Work (SAU 7) – Scott Stepanian & Andy Schafermeyer
Addressing a need at SAU 7. Field specialists met with school faculty to open a line of communication and see what Extension can deliver. We hope to provide opportunities by next school year. Adding to the curriculum and/or having our members/specialist available to provide educational experiences.
9. Staff Program Highlight
Christine- Farm to School gardens and 4-H are growing in the area. STEM and robotics are having an event right here tomorrow afternoon.
Ray B- Managing woodlots workshop in March in Errol. Mud season breakfast in April at the TNC focusing on the NRCS and highlighting the culvert restoration project.
Andy-planning 3 workshops between Feb and March with about 40 participants in each. BBC Camp Director position is in the interview process this week.
Will- Hosting listening sessions and workshops connecting locals with state council members from southern NH
Zeanny- Kris has been a great addition to her team. Has family programing at Lancaster (?) library with 4 families involved and about 15 participants including children. Creates program in Colebrook pantry has about 9 participants, 7 adults and 2 children.
Heidi – Andro Farm to School grant, working with school networks.
10. Council Leadership Needs: Heidi
- State Advisory Council – Need 2 representatives
 - Stakeholder Engagement Event - Subcommittee
 - Extension Legislative Breakfast – March 30th (More information TBA)
11. Other Business
Adjourn at 7:35pm

Proposed 2023 Meetings (6:00 pm – all Mondays)

- March – Stakeholder Engagement Committee Meets
- April 3 – Health & Well-Being Program Presentation
- May – Stakeholder Engagement Event?
- June 5 – 4-H Program Presentation/Council Recognition
- September 11 - Food & Ag
- November – Natural Resources & Budget

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