

Larimer County Extension Advisory Committee Minutes January 8, 2020

Members present: Richard Tingey, Sue Ballou, Pam Harrold, Maia Potts, Regan Thomas, Pilar Jorgensen, Susan Bonsall, Matt Holloran, Brittani Kirkland, Fred McClanahan, Jr., Kerri Rollins, and Kathy Mason.

Excused/Absent: County Commissioner John Kefalas, Irene Romsa

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m.

The minutes of the November 6, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously with a motion by Pam and seconded by Regan.

Election of Officers

Sue Ballou said her term was up in June so would not be nominated for President.

Pam Harrold said her term was up in June and would not be available for nomination.

It was mentioned that some of the newer members of the committee should consider an office.

ACTION: Regan Thomas was nominated and elected unanimously as chair.

Matt Holloran was nominated and elected unanimously as vice chair.

Larimer County Commissioners Public Meeting Notices

The board discussed the process to post board and commissioner meeting notices on the website vs on the Commissioners' weekly schedule. Sue said she is sorry to see the posted paper notices go. She suggested that the County should post a notice on the bulletin board to say the official posting location was moved to the website. Information found at this site includes: district boundaries map, meetings, weekly schedules, commissioners' public record email, along with other items.

ACTION: Regan moved *that the Larimer County Extension Advisory Committee designate www.Larimer.org as the place for posting notice of public meetings, and if exigent or emergency circumstances prevent the online posting at such location, public notice shall be physically posted at the bulletin boards located at the north and south entrances to the Larimer County Courthouse Offices Building at 200 West Oak, Fort Collins, Colorado, in accordance with Colorado's open meetings laws.* Matt seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Extension Showcase

Extension Showcase will be held Thursday, Jan 16, 2020 in the Blue Bar and Grill, in the Budweiser Events Center at The Ranch in Loveland.

The invitee list was reviewed with 50 attendees registered so far.

Agenda was reviewed along with who would be speaking.

- * Market Days! – Alison, Sue, Kali

- * FLTI (Family Leadership Training Institute) – Queen and Lisa

- * STEM Program – Toby

There was discussion on the amount of time for agenda items and adjustments made.

Items to address for 2021 Showcase were previously discussed. No additions at this time.

Larimer County Fair

4-H Agent, Brittani Kirkland, showed a power point (see attached) presentation sharing ideas that could be explored in the way we participate and evaluate our role at the Larimer County Fair. Included were the current structure, evaluate the event, plan, work groups, who would be in work groups and question & topics to explore.

Other items included the participant's perspective (4-H members and leaders). Additional ideas were shared by Susan from a Master Gardener meeting about some marketing ideas from Master Gardeners and the Master Gardener program to have a role in the Fair which might include:

- * More hands on activities or educational opportunities (educational booths)
 - herb table combined with cooking herbs
 - displays of common weeds and how to deal (eradicate?) them
 - best way to harvest and preserve vegetables and fruits
 - high tech ways to grow: vertical farming, hydroponics
 - how to make a flower arrangement
 - planting a fall garden

- * Have an information table set up at Farmers' Market to promote the fair and information re: entering

- * Have Extension in the Fair Parade

- * Promote entering the Fair at every public presentation

- * Target marketing through 4-H, boys and girls clubs, garden center, etc.

- * Promote the fair and entering through social media (Extension, Fair, Farmers' Market)

- * Have a printed version of the fair premium book included in local newspapers

- * Continue to encourage Master Gardeners to enter the Fair. Some sort of completion

- * Solicit millennials, gen-xers and younger who live in homes with no yards to enter a competition to grow the best cherry tomatoes

Open Class

Some departments are now combined (horticulture and garden flowers) and classes with no entries in the past are being dropped for 2020 Fair. This new department will only need one judge and allow the competition to take place in one day vs two, requiring less volunteer and staff time.

Fair Premiums

See additional information sheet for details discussed. Overall the board supported keeping premium payouts for 4-H youth and eliminating premiums at Open Class as long as there would continue to be special awards and ribbons. There was also discussion about rounding to the nearest \$1 amount in premiums to avoid payment of quarters.

Community Assessment

The survey was open through December 2019. The survey team was hoping for 300 responses but received an impressive 1,300 responses. Of those, 1,080 were considered usable responses. A great representation of demographics were largely achieved, with the exception of youth (18-25 year olds) and the Latino populations. Dates will be determined and communicated for community deliberation events.

Other Information

Additional information about Larimer County Extension programs can be found in the Jan 8 agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00am

Next meeting will be Wednesday, March 4, 2020, 8am – 10am, Larimer County Extension Office

Submitted by Fred McClanahan, Jr.