

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION ERIE COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

December 17, 2019

Public Meeting 6:30 pm
Machina Community Center
1799 Clinton St. Buffalo, NY

Present

Diane Held, Jack McGowan, Sam Basile, Matt Agle, Conor O’Gorman, Bill Henry, Kathryn Franco, Gail Wells

Absent

Joe Lorigo, Jane Roalsvig, Ted Farrar, Jessica Liang, Melissa Fratello – has resigned her Board position

Staff:

Sharon Bachman – Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, Sara Jablonski – Urban 4-H Educator

Guests

Dominique Brown – UB MSW candidate, Amelia Kermis - incoming board member

1. **Master Gardener Program Presentation:** Sharon Bachman presented an outline to the Board members of the program, such as goals, expectations, overall outline of the program
2. **Call to Order:** Jack McGowan, *President*, Called the meeting to order at 6:59 Pm.
3. **Agenda Review:** Moved Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Presentation up to the fourth agenda item.
4. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Presentation:** Sara Jablonski and Dominique Brown presented a review of the 4-H program diversity, equity, and inclusion needs assessment. They shared insights and areas to work on in order to be inclusive of everyone in CCE and 4-H programs. Next steps include a survey of 4-H leaders.
5. **Approval of Board and Committee Minutes*:** Motion to amend and accept the November minutes to change the date on the minutes from October 22, 2019 to November 19, 2019 was made by Bill Henry and seconded by Conor O’Gorman. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to accept the 4-H program committee minutes of October 23, 2019 made by Matt Agle and seconded by Kathryn Franco. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to accept the Ag committee minutes of June 11, 2019 was made by Conor O’Gorman and seconded by Gail Wells. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to accept Ag committee minutes of July 17, 2019 was made by Sam Basile and seconded by Conor O’Gorman. Motion passed unanimously.

- 6. Approval of Financial Reports*:** Motion to approve the October 2019 financial report was made by Kathryn Franco and seconded by Bill Henry. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Reports:

A) Committees:

- 1) Capital – The property at 6940 Milestrip Road was visited by Jack, Conor, and Sam. There has been no response from the owners of the Seneca St. property.
- 2) Finance: Met with Laura Scala of Total Fundraising Solutions regarding the fund development audit and strategic plan developed for CCE Erie. Next steps include creating a development committee for fund development as well as fund development board training.
- 3) Nominating: No report
- 4) Operations: No report

B) Cornell Cooperative Extension: Finance changes will be occurring at the Cornell level.

C) Executive Director: CCE director Chris Watkins invited Diane to attend the state Farm Bureau meeting in Binghamton. Diane is currently part of the committee for the new Executive Director search for Wyoming County representing the WSBN. Working with Tammi Kron regarding the CCE Erie 4-H horse program. Safety training has been done with the staff at the office. Tentatively the county appropriation for CCE Erie has been raised by 2% with possible extra \$9,000.00 additional. CCE Erie website will be modified in order to become an accessible website.

8. Old Business:

- A) **4-H Letter response:** A response letter was drafted and reviewed by the board in response to the letter received from several 4-H families.

9. New Business:

A) Approval of MOU with Cornell University*:

Motion to approve the MOU was made by Conor O’Gorman and seconded by Gail Wells. Motion passed unanimously.

B) Orchard Park property for consideration:

Jack McGowan spoke about the 6940 Milestrip Road property

C) Executive Session: Motion made by Jack McGowan to enter into Executive session to discuss the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property for which publicity would substantially affect the value thereof. The motion was seconded by Conor O’Gorman and passed unanimously. Executive session was entered at 8:46 pm. Motion to leave executive session was made by Sam Basile and seconded by Conor O’Gorman and passed unanimously. Left executive session at 8:57 pm.

D)

Motion was made by Kathryn Franco and seconded by Bill Henry to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm Respectfully submitted,

Salvatore Basile

DATES AHEAD:

Board of Directors meeting January 21, 2020 at 7 pm, CCE Erie, 21 South Grove, East Aurora NY