An informal presentation of the activities and responsibilities of the Iowa Extension Council Association preceded the meeting with Jennifer Vit, IECA Director as our guest.

At 6pm the meeting was called to order by Chair Mark Carroll. Council Members present were Carroll, Mark Cooley, Marsha Gerot, Paul Gieselman, Joy Lekwa, David Wilson and Kasey Heindel. Others present included guest Jennifer Vit, Regional Director Janet Smith and County Director Kathy Jolly Vance.

With the addition of names for the volunteer list it was moved by Gieselman and seconded by Wilson to approve the consent agenda including the agenda for the evenings meeting; minutes of the meeting dated July 13th, 2020; previously approved via email consensus AND newly checked volunteers including: Richard Scott Heater, Thomas Bonnichsen, Megan Pretz, Wade Edwards, Brook Cooley, Tony Humiston, Nathan Whittaker, Ryan Orr, Linda Pierce, Janice Pugh, Terry Pugh, Craig Carlson, Paige Carlson, Donald Morrison and Robin Morrison (not for driving).

Newly approved volunteers this evening include: Scott Hintermeister, Emily Carroll, Adair Lents, Lisa Rees, Abbey Travis and Austin Edwards.

And the Financials & Treasurers Report including the approval of voucher number 11825 through voucher number 11887, EFT’s for IPERS, State Treasurer/Treasury, Alliant and Payroll from July 1st – August 30th for a total of $65,356.13 in expenses as well as deposits totaling of $23,561.99. A BANK Checking account balance of $103,561.45 a CD Balance at Washington State Bank of $76,910.42, Petty Cash $500 and Cash Box $20.00 for a total cash balance of $180,991.87. Motion approved unanimously.

Vance provided the nominating committee report that the ballot had been verified and candidates Paul Gieselman, Tara Howell, Joy Lekwa and Kelli Totemeier would appear on the ballot for terms of 4 years and Kasey Heindel would appear on the ballot to fulfill the unexpired term of 2 years for a resigned council member.

The council considered a request for a donation from the Southeast Iowa Research Farm and tabled that for further discussion. Vance was directed to have a member of the Ag Team give a presentation to the Council at a meeting in the spring.

The council considered a sponsorship of the Louisa County Art Show and approved $500 from the Louisa Development Group account. Motion by Lekwa, 2nd by Gieselman, motion passed unanimously. Vance was directed to inform the Art Show Committee that we would prefer to sponsor an educational experience in the future.
Following a short discussion about storage at the Fairgrounds it was moved by Heindel with a 2nd by Cooley to accept the offer from the Louisa County Fair Board to fully use the garage attached to the “4-H/Extension Office” at the Fair and move all of our equipment into that garage. Motion passed.

Motion by Wilson, 2nd by Heindel to approve the Staff Resignation of Abby Boyesen from the position of Program Assistant for the SNAP-Ed Buy. Eat. Live Healthy position. Motion passed.

Moved by Lekwa 2nd by Heindel to move forward to fill the Program Assistant position with the SNAP-Ed grant and consider the offer from campus to increase the hours and add additional compensation if the candidates were interested in increased hours. Motion passed.

Moved by Gieselman, 2nd by Cooley to house a Youth Program Field Specialist in the Louisa County Office. Motion passed.

Motion by Lekwa, 2nd by Wilson to extend the Prosper Opioid Prevention Grant as offered by ISU to June of 2021 with Kathy Jolly Vance taking over the team leader duties of the grant. Motion passed.

Lekwa gave a report from the personnel committee on the review of the County Director and meetings with Vance about working toward retirement and what that might mean for the staffing of the office. Council members were asked to think about what their preferences and vision might be and plan for a work session on the topic in the spring.

Vance presented the council with the opportunity to stack-rank the COVID-19 Recovery initiatives with the understanding that the staff, with the support of the Program Committee and the Council would be working on those issues for the next 2 years. The council identified their top two issues as: “Expanding educational opportunities for youth” and “Engaging Iowans in addressing with mental health”.

Staff reports were read by Vance and shared by Smith.

Meeting was adjourned thru consensus at 7:55pm.

Respectfully,

Marsha Gerot
Secretary