

Carter County Extension Agricultural Committee Minutes
University of Tennessee Carter County Extension Office
Monday, May 01, 2017
4:00p.m.

Present: Chairman, Ross Garland, Charles VonCannon, Dawn Winters, Bobby Blevins, Vickie Clark, Shirley Buckles, Emilee Barton, Kathleen Wilson, and April Pierce

Ross Garland called the meeting to order. Motion was made by Charles VonCannon to adopt the meeting agenda, Shirley Buckles seconded. Agenda passed.

Roll was called and a quorum was present.

Minutes of the April 6, 2017 meeting were discussed. Charles VonCannon suggested contacting the Watauga Baptist Association, and the Carter County Men's Fellowship of the Christian Churches to recruit the 15 churches necessary to participate in "Building a Healthier Community" initiative. Motion was made by Bobby Blevins to approve minutes, seconded by Dawn Winters, minutes were approved.

Public Comments:

No public comments

Old Business:

- a. Welcome Kathleen Wilson on her first day.
- b. Extension Month Promotion (Video did not work and tabled until next meeting.) Several promotions have occurred:
 - *Radio promotion on WBHJ
 - *Press releases in the STAR
 - *Banner placed outside the office
 - *Big Orange "Thank You" to the County Commission
 - *Proclamation given by the Mayor.
 - *Facebook with staff bios and 40 new "likes"
 - *Instagram promotion
- c. Emilee displays the state poster winner from Happy Valley and states that it will be turned into a t-shirt to support 4-H. Emilee also mentions several events involving 4-H:
 - *4-H Grows Campaign
 - *4-H Paper Clover Campaign at Tractor Supply
 - *4-H camps for elementary and junior high grades
 - *Judging teams including the "Clover Bowl" and Wildlife. Wildlife is being coached by Bill Meredith.
 - *Day Camp
 - *Demonstration day at TCAT on May 18.

d. Vickie Clark listed some of the Family and Consumer Science Programs:

- *"Matter of Balance" to prevent falls
- *Teaching "Build it Up" for community gardens
- *Seasonal cooking classes which will include strawberry jam soon.
- * Vickie mentioned an intern from ETSU that will be helping out this summer.

e. April Pierce is finishing the nutrition and exercise classes for this year and hopes to add more classes next year. She also mentions that the Elizabethton and Roan Mountain farmer's markets will soon be opening and that the "Road Show" will be promoting the farmer's market in Elizabethton.

f. Kathleen Wilson is just getting started! She will be meeting with the tourism committee on May 4. She is also working with specialists for some of the county's current needs. She hopes to get her microscope assembled soon so that she can be identifying bugs soon.

New Business:

a. Vickie Clark brings up a budget surplus close to \$15,000 that she requests Ross' assistance in moving to an account to enable updates to the office. The surplus is a result of an open position not requiring the salary scheduled into the budget. Updates that Vickie would like to see accomplished with this funding include:

- *Computer for 4-H
- *Two air conditioners for upstairs offices
- *New phone line for upstairs office
- *An outside water spicket

Ross reminds Vickie of a broken window upstairs. He also offers to work with Vickie and the county finance office to make this budget amendment.

Committee Comments:

Charles VonCannon suggests to county looks at growing mushrooms, particularly specialty mushrooms such as oyster or shitake. Kathleen Wilson says that she is trying to contact an agent in Pennsylvania to provide more information on this topic.

May 15 is the Work Day at the office. The Honor Club is volunteering for this event.

Vickie Clark mentions that Charles VonCannon was honored for volunteering over 3,000hrs for Holston Habitat for Humanity.

Adjourn:

Bobby Blevins motioned to adjourn-seconded by Shirley Buckles. Motion was approved unanimously.