

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Health and Human Services Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Health & Human Services Committee Minutes
February 2, 2015**

The Health and Human Services Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Monday, February 2, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East. Chairman Haji-Sheikh called the meeting to order and those Committee Members present were Ms. Askins, Ms. Little, Mr. Porterfield, Mr. Reid, and Mr. Whelan. All six Committee Members were present.

Others present were Michael Haji-Sheikh and Vicky Broos.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Ms. Askins, seconded by Mr. Whelan and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from January 5, 2015.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Haji-Sheikh announced she would like to add an item for Chairman's Comments to the agenda following Public Comments.

It was moved by Mr. Reid, seconded by Ms. Little, and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

Chairman Haji-Sheikh shared with the Committee that within the past month she was able to attend a Mental Health Board Meeting and a Veteran's Assistance Commission Meeting. She commented that both groups were very welcoming of her presence, receptive, and are both eager to meet with the Health & Human Services Committee. Chairman Haji-Sheikh also announced that at their next Committee meeting in March, the Mental Health Board will be giving their Annual Report to them. She also added that she would also ask the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Home to come and visit with them or the Veteran's Assistance Commission.

The Committee also briefly discussed the recent results of the Advancing DeKalb County survey. Chairman Haji-Sheikh noted that the program director for the DeKalb County Community Foundation said 2,500 people responded to the survey and out of those respondents they didn't reflect the makeup of DeKalb County, so the survey was deemed statistically invalid. The Committee Members shared their disappointment with the results and how the survey was conducted.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION – VICKY BROOS

Chairman Haji-Sheikh introduced University of Illinois Extension's Boone-DeKalb-Ogle Unit's County Director, Vicky Broos. Ms. Broos started by sharing the some brief history of how U of I Extension first began in DeKalb County 102 years ago. She continued to explain that Extension offers practical, research-based, unbiased education to help people improve their lives and communities through learning partnerships that put knowledge to work. The programs have evolved extensively throughout the years from their original purposes of providing agriculture, consumer, and economic information to farmers and homemakers.

Ms. Broos continued to provide the Committee with information regarding the staff and the educators who serve the Boone-DeKalb-Ogle Unit. She also reviewed the U of I Extension's Program Highlights handout with the Committee. The handout, attached to these minutes, detailed most of the programs that the Extension Office offers to the public. The Committee spent some extra time talking about food pantries and how the Extension Office is helping with the local food initiatives and educating individuals on how to use local foods to their full potential. Ms. Broos also mentioned that they are working on bringing diversity to many of their groups and programs and they are beginning to offer more programs directed towards the Latino Community.

Mr. Porterfield asked if there is an issue with obtaining meeting space to hold the Extension's programs or education workshops. Ms. Broos said that she wouldn't say they always have adequate space because many times they have to pay to rent space, but many times they find appropriate space in churches, libraries, or even the Farm Bureau's building.

Mr. Broos and the Committee lastly talked about the Extension's finances and grants they acquire through the USDA. She also noted that their funding had declined a large amount throughout the years and they are looking for alternative ways to regain some of the funding they have lost through their contributors.

Chairman Haji-Sheikh and the Committee thanked Ms. Broos for coming and sharing information regarding the University of Extension and detailing all of the programs they have to offer to the County.

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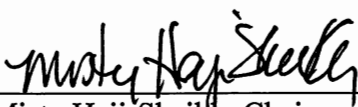
REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION – AMANDA CHRISTENSEN

Ms. Christensen was unable to attend the meeting and Chairman Haji-Sheikh noted she would try and reschedule her to come and join them at a later date.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Ms. Askins, seconded by Mr. Porterfield, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Misty Haji-Sheikh, Chairman



Tasha Stogsdill, Recording Secretary



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
EXTENSION

investing in You

Boone/DeKalb/Ogle Unit

DeKalb County Extension Office

1350 W. Prairie Dr. Sycamore, IL 60178-3166; Phone: **815.758.8194**; Fax: **815.758.8199**

Website: web.extension.illinois.edu/bdo

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00 – 12 & 1:00 – 4:30 (Closed 12-1 pm)

County Director: Vicky Broos

Main Office: Ogle County

E-mail: broos@illinois.edu

DeKalb County Staff

<p>Michelle Petragallo General Program Coordinator</p> <p>Nicole Groezinger 4-H Program Coordinator</p> <p>Lizy Garcia 4-H Latino Program Coordinator</p>	<p>Connie Handel Community Worker, Natural Resources</p> <p>Janelle Stein & Krystle Calvin Community Workers, SNAP-ED</p> <p>Rosa Borjon Office Support Assistant</p>
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Educators Serving Boone, DeKalb & Ogle Counties

Peggy Doty
Energy & Environmental Stewardship
Programs in energy conservation, development of sustainable and alternative energy sources, and enhancement and protection of natural resources. Also provides leadership to volunteers within the Master Naturalist Program.

Candice Miller
Horticulture
Production and protection of plants in urban and suburban landscapes, fruit and vegetable production, including organic and IPM plant protection systems. Also provides leadership for the volunteers within the Master Gardener Program.

Johnna Jennings
4-H Youth Development
Provides overall leadership for the 4-H youth development program in the three-county unit, focusing on 4-H Clubs, 4-H Groups, youth education and the Latino initiative. Works with county-based program coordinators and 4-H volunteers.

Marilyn Csernus
Nutrition & Wellness
Development and delivery of programs and materials related to optimal nutrition, disease prevention and management (includes obesity and diabetes prevention), and ensuring a safe and secure food supply.

Andy Larson
Local Foods & Small Farms
Programs in sustainable local food production, marketing of local food systems, organic and IPM plant protection systems, and small farms educational programs stressing environmental stewardship and economic sustainability.

Russ Higgins
Commercial Agriculture Shabbona Research Station

New Educators to be Hired:
Youth Development
focusing on partnerships and priority issues



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS EXTENSION

College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

Helping You Put Knowledge To Work

DeKalb County Extension Program Highlights

Energy & Environmental Stewardship

- Programs presented out of Natural Resource Education Center at Russell Woods Forest Preserve in cooperation with the DeKalb County Forest Preserve and DeKalb County Health Department
- Staff remain at the Center for public access when not engaged in programming
- Outdoor education Field Studies Fall and Spring—teachers bring classes for full or half-day—During '13-14 school year, taught **1100** students over 33 days at the site
- November through March conduct DeKalb County School Recycling Program free to all elementary schools—for '13-14 school year had **4226** student contacts
- Summer day camps—6 themed weeks **129** youth
- Winterfest family event—**279** participants signed the guest book
- Maple Syruping family event—**150+**
- Master Naturalist Training in Genoa fall of 2014—**18** new trainees, for total of **29**. Beginning to grow their volunteerism, providing approximately **400** volunteer hours in 2014
- Workshop entitled “Large Predators in Illinois” attracted **39** interested persons and a following after the bear sighting in Northwest Illinois
- Soil & Water Management Workshop for Certified Crop Advisor Credits
- Clearing the Air About Radon—**65** attendees
- Pond Management (in cooperation with DeKalb County SWCD)

Home Horticulture

- **45** Active Master Gardener Volunteers
- For 2014, Master Gardeners contributed **3569** volunteer hours on **over 20** service projects throughout the county. These include the Engh Farm at Sycamore History Museum (educational workshops for youth and adults); DeKalb County Nursing & Rehab Center (Alzheimer’s Garden and Courtyard Garden with Horticulture Therapy); DeKalb City Planters; and many more
- Hort Help Desk serving clients throughout the growing season--**152** in 2014
- Master Gardener Training offered for DeKalb County residents in different locations annually; will be held in **DeKalb County in the Fall of 2015**
- 4-Seasons Garden TeleNet Series—4 programs each season
- Greenhouses for Home Gardeners; Seed Saving
- Gardener’s Pathway Symposium held annually in cooperation with Kishwaukee College--**201** Attendees
- Garden Walk and Plant Sale held annually with 6-8 gardens showcased countywide

4-H Youth Development

- Currently **15** community based 4-H clubs with **345** members
- SPIN (Special Interest) Clubs for Shooting Sports, Baking and Sewing--**65** members

- Annual 4-H Club activities including Super Saturday Project Workshop, Public Speaking Contest, General Projects Show, Livestock Show, and 4-H Officer and Leader Trainings
- **101** adult volunteers assisting with 4-H club programs
- National Youth Science Day Experiments in **14** Classrooms reaching a total of **415** students
- Chick Embryology conducted in **27** schools reaching **587** students
- Science Siesta and Advanced Science Siesta—regional program for girls with **41** from DeKalb County
- Live It Up! Leadership Development—Regional program held at NIU. Youth learned about various leadership topics and participated in Illini Fighting Hunger Community Service project yielding 18,348 meals packed and delivered to food pantries throughout unit including 5 in DeKalb County
- New in Summer 2014—Cooking Schools for youth using Teens as Teachers (ConAgra Grant)
- New in 2014--Latino 4-H Initiative—Through state funding, DeKalb County has .2 FTE to facilitate Latino youth participation in 4-H. DeKalb County is one of 9 counties with greater than 10% of total youth being Hispanic. Goal is to develop relationships and culturally relevant experiences leading to club growth.

Nutrition & Wellness

- Mediterranean Diet
- Healthy Living Series—Live Long & Well; Healthy Snacking
- Meals for a Healthy Heart—Instruction and cooking demonstrations
- Cooking with Fruits & Vegetables
- Yes! You Can—Preserving
- Crock Pot Cooking
- Participating in Live Healthy DeKalb County Initiative and NIU FOODS Initiative

Illinois Nutrition Education Program (USDA Grant Funded)--Additional staff member came on board in the Fall of 2014

Audiences—Sites Served:

- Pre-K Classes: Two Rivers Head Start, Little Friends Academy, and DeKalb School District Pre-K Programs at Huntley Middle School
- Mason Court Apartments, Civic Apartments
- Hope Haven, Safe Passage, Discovery House
- Cooking Schools at Camp Maple Leaf and United Methodist Summer Feeding Program
- DeKalb County Health Department WIC Program
- Pantries: Barb Food Mart, DeKalb Area Food Pantry at Salvation Army, and United Methodist Church Sycamore, Bethlehem Lutheran, Salem Lutheran
- New in 2014: Good Life Academy After School Program at Westminster Church
- New in 2014/2015: School programs for kindergarten classes at Tyler, Littlejohn and Founders

Local Foods & Small Farms—New educator came on board April, 2014

- Putting Small Acres to Work (Kishwaukee College and NIU Rockford)
- Certified Livestock Managers Training
- Farmer's Market Vendors—Marketing & Merchandizing
- Raising Backyard Chickens Right
- New: Farm Stroll being planned for June 2015