

Minutes

The University of Missouri Extension Council in Platte County

January 6th, 2025

The regular meeting of the University of Missouri Extension Council in Platte County, hosted via Zoom, was called to order at 6:08 PM without a quorum.

Members Present: Sharon Warren, Chris Kempke, Cierra Halbirt

Members Absent: Eric Bradley, Matt Burris, Tiffany Burris, Jim Depriest, Valarie McCaw, Joe Vanover

Staff Present: Lindsay Tarasovic, Elena Stephenson, Todd Higgins, Marilyn Whitacre, Susan Smith, Sarah Misenhelter

Minutes: The minutes from the December meeting were adopted as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was adopted as submitted.

Carry Over Business & New Business:

Staff Reports & Regional Updates:

- Susan Smith works with a curriculum for nutrition. Any training offered that is statewide to help onboard new associates. She works with snack programs to help with funding for 4-H and to help cross programs to increase 4-H membership and reach more members throughout the state. Over the last few months Susan has been working closer with the urban west program to provide support to the facility including, but not limited to Jackson, Platte and Clay County. Susan introduced their new hire Sarah who started her training on December 9th. Sarah is officed out of Clay County and is a resource to us.
 - o Sarah is from Austin, Texas and has worked with teen moms, daycare, and elderly to help meet their nutrition needs. Sarah moved to the Kansas City area in July. Sarah's training is expected to last 6-8 weeks and will be up and running by March.
- Todd Higgins shared the Great Plains Growers conference presenting what growers can learn such as new techniques to apply to their existing operations. MU Extensions agriculture side and Platte County soil distribution board will be attending. There is a composting presentation that is coming to St. Joe. Platte County also has volunteer opportunities at nature places related to wildlife. They will also have a printing workshop in Platte County on February 15th. We will have 10 new master gardeners and 8 of those 10 members will be joining the chapter bringing great leadership and recruitment skills. We are now above 15 members and close to reaching 20-25 members.

- Elena is working with show me neighborhood artwork and they have had 73 installations statewide. Every county was represented in this program. They look forward to continuing art asset mapping work with Arts KC starting in Wyandotte county then going to Platte County. Elena is also preparing for a back-to-school event and distributing a survey to see what kind of art locals are interested in seeing. Her highlights for 2024 were about the Dorothy Day cabin and working with Rachelle as she was the first resident to stay in the cabin. She is planning on hosting another residency that will be launching in March. It is a unique experience as this is the only space offered locally. We would be interested in additional programming to further activate the space.
- Lindsay is working with Julie and the tax program to activate a location in Parkville. Volunteer training was completed in December and will need to be certified. Veterans reads program restarts in 2025 and there will be a new location at the library with help at human services.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Submitted by,

Cierra Halbirt, Secretary