

Larimer County Extension Advisory Committee Minutes May 6, 2020

Members present on zoom:

Richard Tingey, Sue Ballou, Pam Harrold, Irene Romsa, Matt Halloran, Susan Bonsall, Regan Thomas, Maia Potts, John Kefalas, Emily Alligood, Alison O'Connor, Fred McClanahan, Jr., Kerri Rollins, Kathy Mason, Michael Murphree, & David Koons.

The meeting was called to order at 8:05am.

The minutes of the March 4, 2020 meeting were approved. One addition to add re: Extension Showcase ... conversation was not just on the technical aspect, but to determine the purpose of showcase.

Thank You!

Thank you to Susan Bonsall and Sue Ballou for several terms and years of dedication to the Larimer County Extension Advisory Board. Your dedication and input will be missed.

Agent Report

Alison O'Connor gave a report on her programming in Larimer County.

(see power point presentation)

Emily Alligood gave a report on the Farmers' Market.

Report on Programs

Items discussed from the agenda included:

- * Covid-19 updates and the impact expected on the budget
- * The mask making project for community corrections.
- * Farmers' Market updates on safety at the market.
- * Employees continue to work remotely until further notice.
- * County Fair – The Ranch has been leased until January 2021 and is currently set-up as an alternate care facility should it be needed for overflow patients with Covid-19. which is a positive thing. But it cannot be used for County Fair at the same time. Conversations are ongoing on any County Fair planning.

Strategic Guidance

David Koons and Michael Murphree from the Larimer County I.T. depart gave an update on the project they are doing with Extension for strategic guidance.

Northern Colorado is changing, not just causes by the pandemic, but from growth and diversity.

Extension is in a great spot to take the opportunity to look at what that vision might be and what do we need to do today to prepare for the future. Mike and David work as facilitators and gather information from staff through interviews.

Larimer County is the first county to do a Needs Assessment in Extension. Other counties in Colorado will be doing what we are doing. Blake Naughton, Vice President for Engagement and Extension at Colorado State University, has asked all counties to go through this same process, working with data collection, IRISS, community surveys and focus groups. Then going through planning process to interpret the data and ask what it means for each Extension office.

David and Mike asked for feedback from advisory committee members for stake holder expectation. From a high-level perspective, what are your expectations for the future.

- Historically extension has done a good job addressing a variety of subjects. Make sure that historic items do not get lost as we get new ideas.
- There is still a need to educate the public on what Extension is and does.
- Not only public awareness but awareness by other county departments.
- Information of metrics that need to be developed and measures so you can effectively increase community awareness to programs in Extension that would be a source of expertise.
- Extension was created to be the voice of the university to the community. Extension to be at the forefront of whatever is being advanced and researched at Colorado State University and bringing it out to the community in a friendly and timely manner. It might be time to reassess the model to see if we are truly responding to the needs to the needs of the community.
- Continue to be very intentional to reach out with information to those that are hard to reach groups.

If you could fix one thing that would positively impact the future of Extension:

- Follow-up with individuals and get specific feedback on how the information they received from Extension has impacted their life.
- What are the results of the program to see if programs need tweaked for the best results across the population?
- Extension reaching out to all cultures to let them know what we do and have to offer.
- One of the most important things is for Extension to be the go-to resource for the community. Things that Extension provide that are critical are food education, family support, for example. It should feel like Extension is everywhere and do everything.
- How does Extension compete with Google, YouTube and other informational markets with our researched-based information?

Extension Budget

Kerri gave a review of Extension's budget for the last three years.

Budgets overall have continued to increase.

Our largest expense remains to be personnel.

Diversifying revenue sources with grants and financial partnerships is an overall goal

No increase in salary for CSU staff this year due to COVID effect on revenues, but also no staff layoff this year.

County is still assessing how and how much the pandemic will impact the budget.

Operational budget will most likely be the same in 2021 as in 2020.

A country budget work session will be held today (May 6) at 1:30pm. It will be broadcast.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, July 1, 2020, 8am – 10am.

Submitted by Fred McClanahan, Jr.