

# Powhatan Extension Leadership Council (ELC)

## Meeting Minutes from December 9, 2019 Meeting held in Powhatan Extension Office

Members present: Johns Bailey, Tony Hackenberg, Cathy Howland, Gail Timberlake, Tim Kidwell, Allison Walters, Ruby Turner, Keith White, Rachel Henley, Bonnie Garringer, Kim Hymel, Whitney Berriman, and Nicole Shuman

The meeting was called to order by Tony Hackenberg at 8am.

Welcome and introduction of Nicole Shuman, Associate Extension Agent, Agriculture & Natural Resources in Goochland County. She is observing the meeting today to hopefully facilitate beginning an ELC in Goochland.

Motion to accept the minutes of the September 9, 2019 meeting as distributed by Tony Hackenberg; Minutes accepted as distributed.

**ELC Treasurer's Report:** Ruby Turner distributed the ELC Balance Sheet report. There was a beginning balance of \$2,432.32 as of September 1, 2019. Interest received last quarter totals \$1.45 (September – November). There were two disbursement for the Volunteer Reception in September: \$35.70 to Rachel Henley and \$51.88 to Allison Walters. The new balance is \$2,346.19.

### ***UNFINISHED BUSINESS***

**Update, National Agriculture Conference:** Organizers are about 90% to the fundraising goal for the Virginia Beach National Ag Conference. Rachel Henley thanked the ELC members for supporting the fish fry fundraiser last month. After expenses she reported that they raised over \$1000.00. Rachel announced that pre-conference animal science tours will stop locally at Sunny Side Farms and the State Farm in Powhatan. They will possibly need help with van drivers, food, etc. Rachel will reach out once she knows more and at the March ELC meeting.

### ***NEW BUSINESS***

**Pork Loin Fundraiser:** There will only be about a month to plan and organize before this annual event after the next ELC meeting in March. Members agreed it was a worthwhile endeavor and should continue another year. The pick-up date will be the Friday before Easter as usual. Everyone should mark this on their calendars for planning and promoting purposes. Johns Bailey agreed to cook the pork again ELC members will assist.

**Situation Analysis:** Cathy Howland gave a brief update on the Situation Analysis Report which is a report on the needs of the community, submitted last year. A Virginia Tech graduate student put together a rubric analyzing the results in 8 categories. Powhatan County received an 85% which was the equivalent of an Excellent rating.

**Newsletter Format:** Extension office agents presented a new format for the quarterly newsletter. The office is trying to make the newsletter more accessible since several individuals have communicated that they have a problem loading large pdf files when the newsletter is emailed. Rachel researched and found a program called Microsoft SWAY. We are going to try it with this edition and also send a survey to gauge if this version is easier and uses fewer megabytes.

**Programming Reports:**

<b>MSWCD</b>	VACS has half million dollars available this year so they have been busy. Goochland and Powhatan counties want to focus more on septic system pump out. In February they will partner for a program to assist with a cost share for this.
<b>4-H</b>	Three HBA members are planning to start a Beekeeping SPIN Club which will target middle schoolers. There is a new Archery club starting in January. Currently there are 50 youth on the waiting list to get into shooting sports clubs. The 4-H Jr Camp is in process for 2020, she interviewed 50 teens applying for camp counselor positions recently. 4-H Achievement Night was held on November 19 <sup>th</sup> with 75+ attendees. The Powhatan Shooting Club held their Achievement Dinner December 8 <sup>th</sup> with 70 members in attendance. The 4-H Dairy Judging Team started meeting in September, the 4-H Meats Judging Team has their first meeting today. Both of these teams are partnering with the FFA. The Soil Judging Team won their contest recently. The Safe at Home in school program for 4 <sup>th</sup> grade will be starting soon. A Cabin Fever program partnering with the Powhatan Library will be held in February. This is an updated version of MakerFest.
<b>ANR</b>	There will be 8 MG Trainees starting classes in January. The 3 <sup>rd</sup> year of Women in Agriculture Conference will be held in Goochland February 20-21, 2020 The American Farmland Trust got a grant for a program in Powhatan which will be three sessions designed for women landowners to make contacts and learn about resources available to them. Rachel is working with the Farm Bureau on a proposal for an agriculture complex in the county. Celebration of the Horse is still in discussions about plans for 2020. Rachel may want to hold a Breakfast on the Farm fundraiser, details are still in the early stages.
<b>FCS</b>	Cathy Howland reported that the Babysitting Class just finished meeting this week.
<b>Master Gardeners</b>	GPMGA has set up a Speakers Bureau and have approximately 15 speakers that can go to community events, clubs, etc. to speak on topics. In September members participated in Field Day of the Past, and in October members were in the Historic Garden during Festival of the Grape. Spring Garden Fest is scheduled for April 25, 2020
<b>Huguenot Beekeepers</b>	HBA Beginning Beekeepers class will be starting mid-February and run four Saturday's. Keith White reported that the group may be selecting a Young Beekeeper Scholarship winner soon.

**ELC Member Comments:**

Tony Hackenberg spoke about the Social Services program that will be providing a ride service for seniors.

Question: Where and how is the most effective way to distribute information? Such as for the pork loin fundraiser, quarterly newsletter, social services ride services, etc.?

Whitney Berriman agreed to communicate any ideas she has.

Tony Hackenberg will send a separate email about upcoming 2020 VCE agent events.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 am

**NEXT MEETING**

Next Quarterly ELC Meeting: Monday, March 9, 2020, at 8:00 am.