

Environmental Horticulture Advisory Council
February 28, 2018

ATTENDANCE

Brock Burton, City of Danville; Nick Chatterton, VVEDS; Kristy Herr, Herr Farms; Dave Kietzmann, DACC; Ken Konsis, Conservation District; Amanda Krabbe, DACC; Steve Lane, City of Danville; Kent Miles, Illinois Willows; Timothy Morgan, DACC; Bruce Rape, DACC; Mary Stonecipher, Sunset Funeral Home; Dana Wheeler, DACC

REPORTS

Amanda gave an update on the DACC Land Lab. Last year was the most successful year so far. Over 3600 pounds of produce was given away. The Land Lab sold honey and pumpkins and made a profit of \$1000 to put back into the Lab. Plans are to increase the amount of produce and ornamentals and add dwarf fruit trees. The Lab, in addition to giving away produce will be selling some of the produce to the headstart program. On March 7th DACC students, staff, and faculty will assist International Greenhouse in erecting a high tunnel on the Land Lab. The Land Lab is also planning to add a children's garden for the 4H Students and have a Vegebration Celebration for preschool and headstart kids.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

The discussion quickly turned to the changes to the curriculum for Horticulture. There are no visible signs of increase yet. However, during the process of restructuring it was discovered that the coding on some of the courses changed over the years, which made Horticulture unavailable for funding for JTP and VA recipients. It is anticipated that correcting these codes will increase enrollment from WIOA. The program struggles even though enrollment is found at suburban colleges, so the council discussed ways to market the program to high schools, on social media, DACC Discover Days in April, tours. Some points that were considered:

- Marketing to those interested in sporting field management.
- Using CAD in landscape design. Younger students interested in having a technology component.
- Bring back golf teams in FA2019.
- Marketing to farmer's market attendees, health food stores and other environmentally conscious businesses and the Land Connection.
- Articulate the 2-year degree to Purdue where students can transfer to get a 4-year degree.

DACC plant sale will be the mornings of April 26, 27. Veggies will go up to \$1 and the horticulture students are transitioning to liners to cut the costs of baskets. Those will still be sold for \$5. Costs are still lower than most vendors in the area.

ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

There is a Farm to Fork Fundraiser on the DACC Quad on August 25. The council discussed the possibility to do a Farm to For appetizers at Business After Hours.

The City of Danville is looking for interns, preferably 18 with a valid driver's license.

DATE of NEXT MEETING

Spring 2019

MINUTES SUBMITTED by:

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa J. Osborne

Lisa J. Osborne
Administrative Assistant
Business and Technology