

Advisory Council meeting minutes February 14, 2023
Meeting started 1 PM

The following were in attendance, Meg Hunn, Ginger Golden, Beth Murphy, Sandy Liakus, Kate Shaddock, Michelle Wittie, John Thompson, Rachael Zweig, Agent, Penny Lindgren, Scott Lake, Ray Iturralde, Mo Casey, and Joan Ellis

Meg opened the meeting with introductions of attendees.

Meg reported on the Advisory Council structure listed on webpage is being updated and will be reviewed at March meeting.

We are looking for a person to be a liaison between project leaders and the Communication Committee to help with promoting projects.

Ginger reported on the International Master Gardeners conference Search for Excellence award. We submitted in the Community Service category the new resident pamphlet.

Also, Sandy L submitted for the New Beginnings Garden. Awards will be announced end of February.

Extension Agent.

Rachael reported on some upcoming events; She is doing a hoop house workshop May 4 at Wagner Farms.

Placitas Library garden was recognized as a People's Garden.

Rachael is looking for people to do administrative tasks who might have difficulty getting the required hours from other projects. She wants to compile a list of people who could do various tasks. She would call on them to see if they are available to do the task.

Rachael is doing a drip irrigation workshop and asks anyone who needs help with irrigation that she might do the workshop in their garden. Penny volunteered her garden. She wants to convert to tape irrigation.

Membership:

Mo reported three more people have paid. Membership payments should go to the post office box. There was concern expressed about a formerly active MG who cannot be reached - what do we do in this situation? How do we update our records?

Communications:

Scott reported the corrections in the domain have been made and Rachael is the owner of the website.

CERVS pilot test is being worked on currently. The profile and test for collecting hours is in progress. There is no timeline yet.

We need someone to take over the Mail Chimp program from Scott; Scott advised that we need to go through the email addresses in this program.

Education committee:

John gave the status on the 2023 interns one person dropped out did not ask for a refund.

There are 38 interns enrolled. The mentors are working well with the interns

Michelle reported on the new intern field trip program. There are some places that can accommodate only 10 to 15 people. And some charge fees; AC will review a budget request for

such fees upon receiving one. These are only open to interns and mentors, and would be open to master gardeners, if not filled.

The in person public classes (Gardening with the Masters) are scheduled one per month. 23 people were at the Esther bone library for a February presentations. The January presentation that Kate S led was about 20 in attendance.

Advanced classes on greenhouse by Curtis Smith was full (and recorded, but not posted; email John Thompson if you want the link).

Sam Thompson has arranged an expert on wasps for the March class.

Linda Walsh and Sam are developing criteria for sustainable gardens - they want to have for the Corrales Garden Tour.

Sandy was concerned a lot of interns are coming from Albuquerque not enough from Sandoval County. She wants to recruit next year from the East Mountains and Jemez; Rachael has reached out to the Pueblos. If we get too many, priority would go to Sandoval County residents. She would like input on how to reach other areas.

Outreach:

Penny Will review helpline questions, quarterly to see if appropriate for newsletter.

Sandy and Penny will look at 2020 and 2022 emails to see what questions were asked most frequently.

Sandy updated the slides for the outreach part of the SEMG website.

Sandy said the committee is looking for more members.

Loma Colorado library garden event will be April 8

Julie Rohrs has agreed to do the Working in the Dirt garden tours for interns.

There is no update on the Health Commons garden project; Penny will update next month.

Treasurer: Beth gave the treasurer's report.

NMSU EMG Advisory Council Update:

Sandy relayed the sense of camaraderie felt by the members across the state.

Intern course should open to veterans the week of 2/25

It is noted that the public (and higher priced) course NMSU plans to offer will be in competition with our intern course. We need interns who are committed stay and volunteer.

CERVIS volunteer management software will include profile categories, contact info, forms to sign; Sandoval County is part of the BETA testing this year.

Guest feedback: none

Respectfully submitted

Ginger Golden vice chair