

Extension Leadership Council

Frederick County

Date: Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: First Floor Conference Room – Frederick County Government Building
107 North Kent Street, Winchester, VA 22601

Attendees: ELC Members – Keighley Gore, John Jewell, Dody Stottlemeyer, Heather McKay, Jennifer Flitton-Adams, Lisa Callanan
VCE – Tammy Epperson, Amanda Johnson, Mark Sutphin, Spring Vasey Ashby, Marsha Wright, Bobby Clark

Keighley Gore, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. Brief introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Minutes from March 5, 2025, meeting were distributed for members to review. Lisa Callanan moved that the minutes be approved. John Jewell seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Extension from Your Viewpoint (offered by Staff and ELC members)

- The Northern Shenandoah Valley 2024 Annual Reports were distributed for members to review and share.
- ELC Chair attended FCS Extension Agent's Frederick County SWOT Focus Group session. She felt Amanda gave an amazing presentation.
- ELC member reported helping with in-school 4-H program.
- ELC Chair thanked those who helped with the Ag in the Classroom program.
- 4-H Program Assistant, Tammy Epperson, spoke of the 6-week Literature in the Garden program she's been doing at Middletown Elementary School for kindergarten students. She also spoke of the homeschool garden she's been doing for 14 years with the produce going to CCAP.
- Supervisor John Jewell thanked the Extension Office for working with the Board of Supervisors on the spongy moth issue.

What's Happening in Winchester and Frederick County

- ELC Member reported the Extension Master Gardeners' Plant Sale would be June 7 at Belle Grove.
- ELC Chair felt the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley Mindfulness Walks might be a good opportunity for Extension to become involved in.
- Supervisor Jewell spoke of an upcoming ordinance on allowing residents to house chickens in areas other than rural areas.
- 4-H Extension Agent, Spring Vasey Ashby, spoke of the success of the in-school embryology program.
- World of Works is October 2. Volunteers will be needed.
- Spring just had training on the new 4-H mobile van which she hopes to get a couple times this Fall.
- 4-H Conservation Field Day is May 28 at Aylor Middle School and Frederick County Middle School. Volunteers might be needed.

State and Local Updates

- Local Vacancies Updates: Mark Sutphin
 - Frederick SNAP Program Associate: Hopefully, advertised this Fall.
 - Warren County ANR – Animal Science: The position has posted and applications are being accepted.

- Clarke ANR and full-time Consumer Horticulture Agent: Funds were requested in Clarke, Frederick, Page, Shenandoah, and Warren Counties FY26 County Budgets. With District funds, too, the filling of these two positions look promising. There is a meeting next week to discuss this more with VCE Leadership.

Committee Updates

- **Funding Committee:**
 - Nothing to report beyond the position updates above.
- **Outreach Committee:**
 - Looking forward to participating at World of Works and the Fair.

Extension Programming Highlight

- Bobby Clark, Senior Extension Agent, Agriculture and Natural Resources – Soil and Crops, presented on a new program he is developing: Growing Next Generation Farmers and Agriculture Support Employees.

Other

The next meeting will be August 6, 6:30 p.m., at the Frederick County Government Building.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Marsha Wright
Administrative and Fiscal Assistant

Proposed 2025 Meeting Dates:

August 6 – 6:30 p.m., Frederick County Government Building
November 5 – 12:00 noon, Farm Credit