

# Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting | Minutes

Meeting date | time 10/24/2022 1:00 PM | Meeting location Virtual and Shull Hall 101B

Facilitators: Arly Drake, Avery Davison

Notetaker: Cathy Tagg

Attendees: Penny Dunbar (National Trails Parks & Rec); Kali Miller (SiteOne); Mike (SiteOne); Janice Welsheimer (OABA)

Clark State Attendees: Dr. Nickey Brown, Avery Davison, Dr. Arly Drake, Amanda Honeycutt, Dr. Adam Parrillo, Danielle Williams, Josian Baum (student), Bailee Crownover (student), Brandi Ison (student), Jherri White (student)

## AGENDA TOPICS

### Introductions and Updates: Arly Drake and Avery Davison

Introductions were made and Arly, Avery and present guests.

#### C2A3 Update

- C2A3 Conference – Hosted September 18-20, Clark State, Springfield, OH
- SARE Grant Update
  - Decent yield last fall
  - Due to a rainy Spring, only 15% of corn was planted
  - Infestation of glyphosate-resistant marestail due to deer
- NRCS Grant update – working with NRCA, emphasis on “soil health”

#### Program Updates

- Chickens
  - Offer course on animal agriculture
  - Trend in urban farms adding chickens to gardens
- College For Kids – summer camp
  - Potential traveling ag/hort workshop for K-12
  - Ohio/Regional NRCS willing to be a part of outreach effort
    - What grade/age should we target?
    - Topics or information that should be covered?
- Clark State Master Planning
  - Consultants hired to assess space and best way to utilize it
  - Proposed new AG building and greenhouse

#### Questions/Concerns/Suggestions

*Are there any skills new employees are lacking that we could address?*

*Have you had issues attracting and retaining employees? If so, have you found any effective tactics to attract and retain?*

*We have discussed altering the format of these meetings to be more like a “field day.” Thoughts? Good idea? Bad idea?*

Employers mentioned that they are having trouble with employees being on time for work and retaining them.

Students were asked if they were lacking skills and many felt that they are getting an adequate education.

A flex schedule would allow students to both attend college while working at the same time.

Some back and forth discussion about traditional classes versus hybrid classes. Traditional forces students to be more responsible and attend class. Hybrid allows students to have more flexibility in their schedule. Students in attendance seem happy with the hybrid format.

Students were asked if they were will to consider/have a backup to their area of study. All were open to possibilities.