

Cornell Cooperative Extension | Dutchess County

Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, June 23, 2025

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Welcome, Introduction, President's Comments – Judy DiMatteo, Vice President

- Meeting called to order at 7:07 PM
- Welcome all guests
- The Vice President read a letter from President Chris Shave explaining his absence from the meeting as he is attending the "National Agriculture in the Classroom Conference" in Minneapolis.

Roll Call

- Judy DiMatteo
- Eugene Valoy
- Eoin Wrafter
- Julie Hart
- Ian Romano
- Tyler Pennock
- Pete Berasi
- Chris Drago
- Nicole Raskopf
- Jean Stapf
- Mary Lou Carolan – Staff
- Tina Nauta – Staff
- Kim Houghton – Staff
- Melissa Tan – Staff
- Windy Keesler - Staff
- Mike Murphy – Staff
- Ifetayo Taylor - Staff

Not in attendance

- Chris Shave - Excused
- Azure Oliver - Excused
- Jane Lucas - Excused

Consensus Agenda:

- Recommendation to approve May 19, 2025, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Motion made by Eugene Valoy and second by Tyler Pennock
- Motion to approve - None opposed, 2 abstentions (Chris Drago and Ian Romano)
- All in favor – May 19, 2025, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Approved

Presentation – Mark Levy, Auditor, Nugent and Hauessler

- Change in agenda;
- Presentation was given to the Finance Committee;
- The decision was made that it was not necessary to repeat the presentation for the Board.

Public Comment – Limited to three (3) minutes, and not to exceed thirty (30) minutes in total

Committee Updates

- **Personnel Committee:** Julie Hart
 - Met on May 22, 2025, to discuss a confidential matter
- **Finance Committee:** Eugene Valoy
 - The committee reviewed the audit and is closely monitoring budget numbers
 - Recently received news of grant funds being awarded
 - Observing the usual seasonal fluctuations at the Taste NY store
 - Motion to approve the April 2025 Financials
 - None opposed, no abstentions
 - All in Favor – April Financials and 2023 Audit Approved
 - Motion to approve the 2023 CCEDC Nugent & Hauessler Audit
 - None opposed, no abstentions
 - All in Favor - 2023 CCEDC Nugent & Hauessler Audit Approved
- **Facilities:** Eugene Valoy
 - Exterior of TasteNY building needs maintenance;
 - Issues at the Farm and Home Center are being monitored
- **Fund Development:** Tyler Pennock
 - Progress made in planning for the Fall In Love With Farms event
 - This event is in need of volunteer chairs, this will be discussed at the next meeting.
 - Volunteer chairs can be community members
- **Program Advisory Committees**
 - **4-H:** Jean Stapf – the PAC met and discussed updates
 - **Energy/Environment:** Julie Hart – Environment and Energy Program Leader has been hired; welcome to Ifetayo Taylor
 - **AgHort:** Eugene Valoy – Agriculture/Horticulture PAC is looking for new members
 - **FCE:** Judy DiMatteo – the Parenting programs offered by Family and Consumer Education staff are open to all; see flyer for upcoming Parent and Support Education class

Legislative Representative: Chris Drago

- No report, Legislator Drago left at 7:45 to attend another meeting

Executive Update: Eoin Wrafter

- The Dutchess County Legislature will be holding a public hearing on Ag District inclusion requests on July 14, 2025
- A vote on the inclusions will be held in August, date to be determined.
- A meeting of the Agriculture Education subcommittee will be scheduled, date to be determined
- The planning process for the 2026 budget has begun

Executive Director's Report (Attached): Mary Lou Carolan

Old Business:

- Update on security system for Farm and Home Center
- Resignation of Andrea Parent Tibbets from the Board
- President is working with State Extension Specialist on the process for the Executive Director's 2-year review
- Introduction of Pat Claiborne, our new State Extension Specialist
 - Pat provided updates on potential changes in federal funding to programs

New Business:

- Request for clarity on roles and responsibilities of the board in decision making processes
- Suggestion was made for additional board training on this topic

Next Meeting – Monday, July 28, 2025, at 7 PM at CCEDC, Room A

Motion to Adjourn – meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM

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