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*Cornell Cooperative Extension  
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social well-being. We bring  
local experience and research-  
based solutions together,  
helping New York State families  
and communities thrive in our  
rapidly changing world.*

*Cornell Cooperative Extension  
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recognized for providing equal  
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opportunities in accordance  
with applicable laws.*

**Association Annual Meeting Minutes**

*In Upper Champlin Hall, SUNY Cobleskill and Virtual via Zoom*

**October 21, 2025**

Deborah Gansinger Hall, Board President and Liz Callahan, Executive Director welcomed all in attendance. Most attendees were in person with a few people attending via zoom.

Deb thanked Dr. Sophie Ano, SUNY Cobleskill Associate Dean of Agriculture and Academics, for joining us this evening as well as thanked SUNY Cobleskill and SUNY Cobleskill Auxiliary Services for supporting the implementation of the Annual Meeting.

Deb introduced herself and then asked each board member to stand and introduce themselves, what county they represent, and their position on the board and/or committees.

Liz asked the staff to introduce themselves and their title within the association. Liz then went on to recognize the longevity of dedicated staff. Catherine Roberts has been with the association for over 5 years.

Deb called the annual business meeting to order at 6:21 PM and asked if there was any public comment. Seeing none, Deb asked that everyone in attendance review the minutes from last year's annual meeting. Michaela Fisher moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Betsy Jensen.

Association Treasurer Tom Pullyblank continued with a brief overview of the association's 2025 financial support summary. The association is in a great place and Tom thanked the finance staff for their efforts with the clarity and detail and of association reports. The association's revenue comes through multiple federal, state and county sources, as well as individual and corporate donations and fundraising.

Deb explained that over the last year, the executive board has carefully investigated moving from a mixed constitution to an all-at large model. They are purposing the change to an all-at large board of directors to meet the challenges that the association has. The all-at large model will better support distance and financial challenges, as well as to help build leadership as a board and focus on all programs for each at large member. Betsy Jensen made the motion to move to an all-at large board of directors, Carol Phelps seconded, the constitution was passed unanimously.

Liz continued with the Ballot for Election of vacancies on the Board of Directors. No nominations were made from the floor. Because of the in-person attendance, voting was able to be done in person, and the actual counting of ballots was forgone, and Deb asked that the ballot be accepted as presented. Betsy Jensen moved to approve

the ballot as presented and Steve Sinniger seconded, the ballot was passed unanimously.

The meeting was then opened for new business and discussion; Deb did a presentation of thanks to all board members and staff.

Liz continued by acknowledging the volunteers and supporters of the association as well as committee and board members. Liz then explained that after the business meeting is adjourned, program staff members will go to their stations and welcome attendees to visit and speak with them about their programs. Each attendee was given a passport to have staff sign when at their station, and those who get 4 signatures on their passport will be entered to win a door prize. Also, after the business meeting concludes, there are hors d'oeuvres and refreshments.

Liz invited Nelta Miller and Michelle Leveski to the front to conduct a flash program to help our Family and Consumer Sciences test a program that they will be doing with their nutrition programs, and it supports the deliverables for a small wellness grant from New York State Department of Health. Deb Hall handed out travel size hand sanitizer to each person in attendance. Nelta explained that each person in attendance was to put hand sanitizer on their hands while the group sang "Happy Birthday" twice to ensure proper application.

With no further discussion, Tom Pullyblank moved to adjourn the business meeting and was seconded by Betsy Jensen. The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 PM.

**Submitted by Nicole Thompson**

**Reviewed by Liz Callahan**