

Cornell Cooperative Extension Onondaga County

Cornell Cooperative Extension
of Onondaga County
6505 Collamer Road
East Syracuse, NY, 13057
t. 315 424-9485
f. 315 424-7056
e. onondaga@cornell.edu
www.cceonondaga.org

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 16, 2025

Present: 85 citizens present, including the Board of Directors.

Welcome: 6:00PM

David Skeval called the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County's 111th Annual Meeting, held at Skyline Lodge at Highland Forest, to order at 6:00PM. David opened by welcoming everyone in attendance and offering the main reasons why this meeting is held, including to share the financial status of the association, give programming updates, and to elect new CCE Onondaga Board members for 2026.

David acknowledged current board members and noted guests, staff members, and volunteers. A special thank you was given to Onondaga County Parks for providing the meeting place location. Ryan Atkinson, District Manager and Onondaga County Parks Superintendent, gave welcoming remarks.

Annual Business Meeting

The annual business meeting was officially called to order at 6:03 PM by Tim Ryan, Board President.

David Skeval reviewed the voting procedures by enrolled members using the ballots on the tables. Catie Blackler Board Secretary, noted that copies of the 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes were provided digitally prior to the meeting and available at the door. A motion was made by Catie to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept them as presented in writing; seconded by Tim Ryan.

Onondaga Cooperative Extension Executive Director, David Skeval, introduced the Annual Program Report. He cited CCE's large number of projects and events completed in 2025 and thanked the volunteers and educators responsible for those accomplishments. David gave an overview and key projects for each of CCE Onondaga's four main program areas: Agriculture, Natural Resources, 4-H Youth Development, and Health & Nutrition. He closed by highlighting the great collaboration between program areas, volunteers, and program partners.

Odean Dyer, Board Treasurer, presented the Financial Report. Since our last annual meeting, our Association has received a clean audit from the Bonadio group. He covered the 2025 fiscal health of the organization. In closing, Odean noted that CCE Onondaga is in good financial shape.

Helping Put Knowledge to Work

Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO,
Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.

Tim Ryan introduced Nominating Chairman Steve Kankus, who explained the process of voting for eligible Association members, utilizing paper ballot cards distributed at registration. The slate of candidates was presented, including Jim Nocek, Dan Kranz, Martha Ryan, Tony Clark, Travis Glazer, Josh Forward, and Jim Smith. No additional nominations were received. The recommended slate of candidates was unanimously voted in for their 2-year terms.

David introduced the next topic, the amendment to the CCE Onondaga Constitution. He noted that the Association is required to review its Constitution every three years. The Board convened a Governance Committee to review the Constitution and suggest changes if necessary. The Committee provided changes to the Constitution in regard to defining quorum. The Board agreed with the suggested changes and is now recommending that the Association adopt those changes. He then asked for questions or for a motion to adopt the 2026 CCE Onondaga Constitution as presented. A motion was made by Odean Dyer and seconded by Tim Virgil.

Old Business: None

New Business: Reminder to attendees to fill in provided 2026 Enrollment Cards.

David noted the end of the business meeting. Tim Ryan moved to adjourn, and Catie Blackler seconded the motion. All present unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:36pm.

Program Meeting

David Skeval began the Program Meeting at 6:37pm and introduced Keynote Speaker: Andy Turner, who reflected on the spirit of Extension and the vision of its future.

Service Awards Program Cooperator Awards

David Skeval and CCE Team Leader staff presented the following Association Cooperator Awards:

- Troy Waffner: Agriculture
- Amy Crowley: Youth & Family Development
- Sheila Gaughan: Nutrition
- Julie LaFave: Environmental

The following staff were recognized for their milestone years of service:

- Jean Kessner: 5 years
- Kathleen Burns Copeletti: 5 years
- Michelle Bouchard: 10 years

David Skeval thanked the Board Members who are finishing their terms, Tim Virgil and Deb Cody. The evening closed with an appreciation of the staff and volunteers – thanking everyone for attending.

The program was adjourned at 7:40PM

Respectfully submitted by:

Catie Blacker
2026 Board Secretary