St. Louis County Extension
Meeting 01/19/17

Council Attendees: Larry McGowan, Sylvester Bolden, Tim Schmaiz, Jinsong You, Mary Oswald, Toni Burrows, Karen Watkins,

Staff Attendees: Amanda Meek, Jody Squires, Melinda Farrar, Dwayne James

Call to order: 6:25pm (traffic issues)

Presentations: No report – Bill Ruppert not able to attend this meeting.

Approval of minutes Nov 2016: No quorum at that time

Treasury Report: Karen Watkins-Negative income for 11 months ($67,000 loss), includes extra one-time expenses from move and upgrade of building

Sylvester Bolden was questioning what makes of 5600 (Other personal services) and 5601 (Professional Services) accounts. Council is requesting a chart explaining what makes up each account. Melinda Farrar (accountant) to report back next meeting on what makes up the two accounts.

Sylvester Bolden motions to accept November financials and Dave Krenter 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

Regional Council and State Council Reports: Jingsong You was not able to attend last meeting, but will be attending the next meeting and will bring a report to next Council meeting.

Committee Discussions and Reports:

Bylaws – Have compiled changes. Will bring to next Council meeting per Dave Krenter and Toni Burrows

Events – Mary Oswald reported the next Annual Dinner will be on March 31 at the Orlando’s Event Center. An invitation will be sent out with information about the event. Council requested that the “paying guest” instructions be made clearer.

Tim Schmaiz reported he has been meeting with local schools and libraries to find partners for programming.

Was mentioned that Toni DeLong has taken early retirement.

Also was mentioned that MO Governor Grietens has just cut funds for Extension.

Ready for Action:

County Mileage rate: Each County pays different rates and the plan is to normalize the rate probably at the state level. St. Louis County has always matched the IRS rate.

Employment Agreement: Proposing an employment agreement for 4-H Robotics’ staff member Bailey Lutz. The position had been funded through a national mentoring grant that is being cut down to 60%.
The proposal is for the Council to pick up 20% ($6300) of the FTE - will be covered through increased Robotics funding revenue. The Regional office will handle the last 20% of the salary.

Larry McGowen reported he learned of STEM education grant funds available through the American Honda Foundation. He and Amanda Meek will follow up on this lead for grant funding. One issue may be our non-501(c)(3) status. (We are a Section 115 IRS status). Amanda thinks we may be able to go through the 4-H Foundation if it is an issue. Dave Kreuter and Larry McGowen want to follow up with Columbia to find out why Extension doesn’t change the Extension offices to 501(c)(3) status which causes a hurdle to qualify for grant funding.

Sylvester Bolden is requesting numbers on how Robotics education has helped the community. Amanda Meek said she would get that information together for the Council.

Toni Burrows motioned to reimburse the University 20% FTE ($6300) compensation for Bailey Lutz’s salary. Jinsong You 2nd the motion. Dave Kreuter and Sylvester Bolden abstained from voting. The motion passed.

NOTE by dtj – This is not the complete minutes. A complete version is forthcoming.