MINUTES OF THE SHARE COUNCIL VIRTUAL SPRING MEETING  
Friday, April 9, 2021 | 2:00-3:30pm | Zoom

Members in Attendance: Chair Sharon Spratt, Vice Chair Peter Chaires, Membership/Nominating Committee Chair Kenneth Parker, Communication and Education Committee Chair Bernie Hamel, Executive Director Cody Helmer, Secretary Heather Yoder, Wayne Smith, Ray Goldwire, Ernest Sellers, Rick Minton, John Woeste and Larry Mack.

Member Prospect Guests: Mike Joyner, Melissa Putnam, Kim Sams and Michael Schadler.

Guests: UF/IFAS Advancement Staff: Julie Conn, Katherine Davies, Caylin Hilton, Pam Matchett, Genaveve Henson, Kelly Westfall, Teresa Kenyon, and Caleb Reed; Shelby Thomas, Animal Sciences.

Other Activities of the Council: Prior to the official business meeting, SHARE Council members participated in the annual update from UF/IFAS Leadership. Florida 4-H Foundation Board of Directors President Whitney Ellis provided an update on Camp Cherry Lake. Professor Eben Broadbent presented a discussion of the use of artificial intelligence within UF/IFAS programs. A pre-recorded virtual tour of the Horse Teaching Unit featuring Joel McQuagge was shown at the end of the meeting.

Call to Order......................................................................................................................... Sharon Spratt

Spratt called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

Welcome ......................................................................................................................... Sharon Spratt

Spratt welcomed everyone and introduced guests.

Minutes of Previous Meeting ................................................................. Heather Yoder

Spratt called for reading and approval of the minutes from the Fall and Winter SHARE Council meetings on September 25, 2020, and January 22, 2021, respectively.

Bernie Hamel moved to waive the reading of the minutes and approve, Larry Mack seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

UF/IFAS Advancement and Campaign Update ........................................ Cody Helmer

Helmer updated the Council on UF and UF/IFAS progress toward the Go Greater campaign goal. Both the University and IFAS have met and exceeded their campaign goals. Helmer and other IFAS Advancement staff shared recent and anticipated gift commitments. Helmer also discussed post-campaign plans and asked for discussion of potential next steps. The group agreed that the option of mini-campaigns was in IFAS’ best interest.

Helmer shared UF and UF/IFAS achievements for the 3rd Annual Giving Day on February 18, 2021. The University received 22,198 gifts and $25+ commitments. IFAS received more than 1,100 gifts and $221,000+ commitments.
Helmer invited Heather Yoder to update the Council on the IFAS Dinner of Distinction to be held following the SHARE Council Fall Meeting on September 3, 2021. The event will be held at Valley View in Alachua, Florida, with reduced capacity and following UF safety guidelines. Helmer then called for discussion of the IFAS Volunteer of the Year award and ask members to vote between three candidates.

Membership Committee ........................................................................................................ Kenneth Parker

The following membership status update requests were made earlier in the year: Hugh English, Kate English, Rick Minton, Chuck Syfrett, and John Woeste requested to become Emeritus members. Halsey Beshears, Erin Freel Mann, Kay Richardson, Roger Scarborough, Bob Spencer, Mike Stuart, and Regina Thomas requested to become past members.

Peter Chaires moved to approve the status update requests, Larry Mack seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike Joyner, Melissa Putnam, Kim Sams, and Michael Schadler were presented for membership confirmation.

Bernie Hamel moved to accept the slate of candidates to membership, Peter Chaires seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Communication/Education Committee .............................................................................. Bernie Hamel

Hamel shared communication opportunities for the Council, including assisting the Advancement team with the quarterly Council newsletters by suggesting content and reviewing the newsletter before it is emailed to the Council. The Council can also identify trade publications that may donate ad space that could plug in giving opportunities, and the committee can assist in developing and disbursing communications to support the classroom renovations project. For educational opportunities, the committee hopes to invite guest speakers to future meetings to share knowledge of their area of expertise and invited members to share topics that would be of interest for the group with the committee or with the IFAS Advancement team. Hamel also shared the member activity update. Several members participated in the Extension Dean Candidate Stakeholder Town Halls.

Executive Report .......................................................... Sharon Spratt

Spratt invited Caleb Reed to share updates on the CALS Student Philanthropy Council. The organization raised over $1,000 on Gator Nation Giving Day for the CALS SPC Freshman Scholarship. The organization hopes to double that goal next year to be able to provide two scholarships. Reed also shared that SPC is restructuring its officer positions to better serve the organization’s purpose. These new positions will be President, Vice President of Engagement, Vice President of Gratitude, and Vice President of Education.

Helmer discussed projects for the SHARE Council to support, including the VP Promise and capital projects such as dormitories at RECs and renovations in McCarty Hall, especially those without state funding.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment............................................................ Sharon Spratt

Spratt opened the floor for new business. Seeing none, Spratt adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.
Reported and respectfully submitted by:

Heather Yoder, Secretary