

Advisory Committee Bios

Jean Nelson - Chair



Original appointment – 2012 to fill unexpired term; Reappointed 2014, 2020. Term expires September 30, 2023.

Background: 35 years in Banking, currently a Sr. Analyst for an Institutional Banking group.

Networks and involvement

- People and Pollinators Action Network.
- Previously involved with Colorado Native Plant Society.
- Continues working with Denver Botanic Gardens having started as a young girl with her Aunt around the age of 10.
- Colorado Nurserymen’s Association.

What work are you most excited about within CSU Extension, Jeffco? Has been a Native Plant Master and Trainer on the Jeffco team since 2006.

What areas of CSU Extension, Jeffco would you most like to see improved? Improve Extension’s presence in the community ex. Farmers markets.

Advisory Committee Bios

Sarah Williams – Vice Chair



Original appointment – 2020. Term expires September 30, 2023

Background

- Earned her Bachelor of Science in Landscape Design and Contracting from Colorado State University.
- Masters of Landscape Architecture and Masters of Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Colorado Denver.
- Worked for National Wildlife Federation Early Childhood Health Outdoors (ECHO) program to help young children access high-quality outdoor play settings that support more physical activity that bolsters their daily health and development.
- Worked for several Landscape Architecture design firms and currently working for a Landscape contractor implementing designs.

Networks and involvement

- Lives in Arvada, Jefferson County.
- Connected to the design, engineering, and architecture world.
- Involved with ASLA Colorado.
- Treasure for Jane Silverstein Ries Foundation.
- Volunteers with schools and helps with outdoor areas like sensory parks.

What work are you most excited about within CSU Extension, Jeffco?

- Gardening programs.
- Likes promoting Extension whenever possible, mentioned us in a gardening article she wrote for the Arvada press.

What areas of CSU Extension, Jeffco would you most like to see improved?

- Pairing up with existing programs and working together to avoid reinventing the wheel.

Advisory Committee Bios

Nancy McNally



Original appointment – 2015; Reappointed 2018, 2021. Term expires September 30, 2024.

Background

- Served on Jeffco school board.
- Mayor of Westminster for 10 years, was just re-elected in November for another 4-year term.
- Was involved in 4-H growing up.
- Started an embroidery business 10 years ago.
- Also 10 years ago helped with the Cottage Food Act, went to the legislator to increase what food makers can make from \$5,000 to \$10,000.

Networks and involvement

- Works with churches and emergency agencies in the Westminster area as a way of ensuring large groups of community members and volunteers are receiving the same important information.

What work are you most excited about within CSU Extension, Jeffco?

- Cottage Food Training

What area of CSU Extension, Jeffco would you most like to see improved?

- Be less of a hidden treasure and continue educating the community about the resources we offer, and the opportunity people have.

Advisory Committee Bios

Kym Morrissey



Original appointment – 2014; Reappointed 2017, 2020. Term expires September 30, 2023.

Background

- Lifetime resident of Jefferson County.
- Currently works at Centura Health. Program manager for three different hospitals doing physician peer reviews.

Networks and involvement

- Volunteer naturalist at Bear Creek Lake Park which gives her a great opportunity to interact with members of the community who come from diverse backgrounds.
- Involved in the agriculture community on both a county and state level as a board member of the Colorado Horse Council, and as State Treasurer for the Colorado Draft Horse Association.

What work are you most excited about within CSU Extension, Jeffco?

- Excited to have Jeni in leadership now and see where we go from here.

What areas of CSU Extension, Jeffco would you most like to see improved?

- Would like to see our gardening and horticulture program get out there more and teaching people how to be more self-reliant and grow more of their own food.
- Make CSU Extension not such a hidden gem.



Advisory Committee Bios

Chris Newcomer



Original appointment – 2020. Term expires September 30, 2023.

Background

- Account manager for an international pricing software company.
- Busy being a dad of two very active kids, 6 and 4-year-old.
- Enjoys home gardening and learned about CSU Extension two years ago while researching online ways to improve the soil in his garden.
- Also interested in Fire Mitigation.

Networks and involvement

- Involved with the Diversity and Inclusion committee at work and is excited to see Extension bring in more diversity and inclusion into its programming.

What areas of CSU Extension, Jeffco would you most like to see improved?

- He notices CSU a lot throughout the community in places like the Stock Show etc. is wondering how Extension could utilize those outreaches and programs to start pushing Extension as well as driving awareness through our website and increasing communication.



JEFFERSON COUNTY
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

Advisory Committee Bios

Joan Poston



Original appointment – 2021. Term expires September 30, 2024

Background

- Medical Technician in Microbiology, interested in animals, taught in Denver Public Schools for 7yrs.
- CSU Alumni with associate degree in Veterinarian Medicine, is retired from Denver Zoo.

Networks and involvement

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What work are you most excited about within CSU Extension, Jeffco?

- Passionate about bringing the Agricultural principals from CSU into the urban community and sees it as a great educational opportunity

What areas of CSU Extension, Jeffco would you most like to see improved?

- Communication between Committee and Office hours, updates, and programs.

Advisory Committee Bios

Jo Schantz



Original appointment – 2020. Term expires September 30, 2023

Background

- More than 20 years of senior-level experience in nonprofit management, fundraising and communications
- Current Executive Director of the Jefferson County Library Foundation
- Former contract employee at CSU Extension in Jefferson County (fundraising, events and marketing)
- Master's degree in Nonprofit Management (MNM) from Regis University, Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE), and Grants Professional Certification (GPC)

Networks and involvement

- Resident of unincorporated Jefferson County
- Former appointee to the Jefferson County Community Services Advisory Board
- Member, Golden Executive Directors Roundtable
- Board member, Literacy Coalition of Colorado and the Honor Bell Foundation

Most excited: Eager to continue assisting with bringing awareness and fundraising opportunities to CSU Extension

Areas for improvement: Hoping to uncover new opportunities for funding and program partnerships, especially for 4-H