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Ewert –Associate Landscape Architect Western DuPage Landscaping, Inc.

Bausman General Manager Chino Valley Landscaping

ey Minalga Product Manager Ball Horticultural Company

Hubbard Owner- Pepper Creek

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#### Internal Participants 7

Chase Budziak Dean of Instruction

Jescelynne Gibbons Associate Dean of Instruction

Janet Gallagher Horticulture Faculty

Sean Walters Horticulture/Agriculture/Biology Faculty

Catherine Marsh Adjunct Horticulture Faculty

Kimberly Rotella Greenhouse Specialist

Catherine Macias Minutes

#### I. Program Update

##### a. Fall 2023 Enrollment

o College enrollment up 9.4% since last fall

o Horticulture enrollment down 96 credit hours (25.5%) since last fall

##### b. Program Faculty & Staffing

o Dr. Sean Walters joined Kishwaukee as a full-time faculty member; Dr. Walters will serve in the Agriculture, Biology, and Horticulture departments

o Jescelynne Gibbons joined Kishwaukee as the new Associate Dean of Business and Technical Education

##### c. Student News (Budziak and Gallagher)

o Horticulture student Abby D'Agostini took 1<sup>st</sup> place for flowers to wear in a wedding category at the American Institute of Floral Designers (AIFD) 2023 Symposium Held during the summer

o Horticulture students designed two pieces for the Art in Bloom event at the Rockford Art Museum

o The Horticulture department provided table décor for the DeKalb County Economic Development Celebration

o The Horticulture Department provided décor when members of the Illinois Community College Trustees visited campus

- o Dr. Sean Walters has taken students to visit Syngenta Seeds R&D Innovation Center in Malta, Unilock in Aurora, and Bayer Agricultural Service in Waterman
- o Most students enrolled in the Horticulture program are fulltime
- d. Facilities, Equipment, and Supplies (Botella)
  - o A new storage building was recently added for Horticulture and Agriculture supplies
  - o The Foundation grant provided a needle seeder for the Horticulture department
  - o The Cooper grant provided punch and grow, benching, and flat filler equipment
  - o Budziak states the greenhouse plants are growing properly
  - o Budziak thanks Larry Hubbard for trouble shooting and diagnosing the issues from Spring 2023
  - o Committee compliments the newly renovated Head House
  - o A request for a new greenhouse has been submitted for a state funded project
- e. Upcoming Events
  - o Floral class will be providing décor for the F

complete.

d. Employment Opportunities

- o Instructors advocate for employers for multiple positions within companies
- o Career Service department posts all job opportunities from employers for students to view