

Training Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

September 28, 2021 – Teleconference and WebEx

Present: Bill Film, Betsy Knapp, Eric Ruscher, Cathy Conklin, Anne Sapienza, Denise Trudell, Eugene Monaco, Dave Ange, Sean Fitzsimmons, Gary Drake and Erica Foley

Get organized

This meeting was held using WebEx video conference software.

NYSAA and IAO Training Update

- A) Fall Conference:
 - a. 12 Classes: 9 are hybrid
 - b. They have 105 people signed up to attend in person and 91 online.
- B) Online Training Classes: 9 one day seminars are scheduled for the rest of the year.
 - a. Ethics class scheduled for 11/19

Assessment Administration WebEx Course

Khristina Ulmer, Peggy Hill and Carolyn Anderson of ORPTS collaborated with Anne Sapienza to offer the Assessment Administration class live entirely via WebEx software. This class was held over 6 days and was the first of its kind, of this length, that ORPTS had participated in. There were 19 students in the class, which was deemed an appropriate size. Overall, there was a wealth of positive feedback from the instructors and attendees. Students liked having live instructors available to speak to. The instructors would have preferred students to utilize their web cams a bit more during the class to foster greater participation and collaboration.

ORPTS Training Schedule

The Fall 2021 assessor training schedule will be finalized this week. Classroom classes and in-person exams will be offered. The first in-person class is scheduled for 1/22, we will keep monitoring the situation with COVID and cancel/change classes as needed. Questions came up about the ORPTS Farm Appraisal course and when it will be held next. The IAO would like to pursue a collaboration with ORPTS and offer the course at Cornell in 2022.

Reimbursement Update

ORPTS used about \$100,000 of assessor training funds for the 2020-21 period. For 2021-22 there is approximately \$146,000 remaining in funds to be used.

Statewide Learning Management System (SLMS) Survey Results

We reviewed survey evaluation results from the last 5 classes held by ORPTS. The surveys were overwhelmingly positive for online training and the new WebEx format. Some discussion centered around the clear improvement displayed from the first Data Collection class utilizing WebEx remote software for the field visit portion of the class to the second class to do so.

Open floor

There was discussion spearheaded by Bill Film about how best to deal with the lack of new assessors entering the field and general interest in the career path of becoming an assessor statewide in upcoming years. Several ideas were brainstormed including creating assessor apprenticeship positions and partnering with a Community College and offering a 1-year degree program to drum up interest in the field.

Action Item

ORPTS will meet with Anne Sapienza and Warren Wheeler to discuss ORPTS partnering with IAO to hold an Ag Class at Cornell in July.

Next Meeting

The next TAG meeting is tentatively scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday March 16, 2022.