

**DRAFT**  
**State Advisory Council Meeting – Thursday, April 19, 2007**  
**NH Higher Education Assistance Foundation Conference Center, Concord NH**

In attendance: Maria Callahan, Wes Cobb, William Cowie, Connie Campbell, Deb Spratt, Fred Creed, Erick Leadbeater, Holly Avery, Hiram Watson, Denis Ward, Anna Boudreau, Beth Todgham, Annmarie Gilmartin, Linda Smith, Laurie Conrad, Lee Sawyer, Paul Bonaparte-Krogh, Juli Brussell, Darrel Covell, Brian Doyle, Jim Grady, John Pike, Charlene Baxter, Holly Young, Peter van Berkum (guest) and Ken La Valley COAs: Larry Barker, Nancy Bradford-Sisson, Deb Cheever, Chuck Hersey, Kathy Jablonski, Geoffrey Njue, Dan Reidy, Ann Hamilton

Chair Anna Boudreau opened the meeting at 10 am, followed by introductions of those attending the meeting.

Dean John Pike then provided an explanation of the packet of materials each member received, and complimented William Cowie, Coos representative, on his efforts to raise funds to help children who attend the OMK 4-H camp. He also noted he'd met new UNH President Mark Huddleston, who looks forward to working with UNHCE.

A moment of silence was held for victims of the Virginia Tech shooting and the recent passing of Maynard Heckel, former director of UNHCE.

Approval of 1/25/07 minutes – motion to accept by Beth, seconded by Denis – approved.

County Reports:

**Cheshire:** Cheshire held a successful County Conversation on one of the coldest nights in the county; good attendance. Successful meeting with the budget committee – everything passed. *Open Barn Day to be held June 9* if anyone would like to attend.

**Grafton:** The budget process is moving along, and all that's left is approval by the legislative delegation. The new DVD was previewed at the last council meeting, and there was considerable discussion on what council members would like to see on it. The suggestion was made to showcase individual counties. John suggested that in order to produce a DVD of that quality, if it might be possible to get the delegation interested in appropriating some funding which would help increase visibility. He suggested connecting with Holly Young, who has the connections on campus to produce such a video. The council has added one new advisory council member, they need a couple more. Kathy Jablonski has taken over as the COA, and Denis noted what a good job Nory Parr had done as COA. Their *county field day is May 17* at the county farm – county government week is next week, where there will be UNHCE displays from the county.

**Merrimack:** The budget passed and the council saw the new DVD at its last council meeting and felt it was very well done and gives a very nice overview of Extension, a nice starting point for those who don't know about us. They're still doing the camera project – each council person handed a camera to take photos. Web page is being worked with and updated, work with getting podcasts up on the web, too. We have a second radio station showing an interest; Peter St. James on WTPL who is willing to give us a time spot.

**Strafford:** Budget approved. One man PAT team, Don, very active. Lorie Chase gave a presentation at the council's last meeting on cleaning up the Cocheco River; she's been at it 10 years and has received \$2 million in grants. A youth representative to the council has been appointed, and the office will hopefully be moving out of its trailer in June. Mark Wiley also spoke at our last meeting about establishing a marine-literate citizenry; really like to have NH residents learn more about our seacoast. It also was noted that the Strafford County Conversation went well.

**Sullivan:** The Sullivan County Conversation was cancelled due to the Nor'Easter. Karna Williams is retiring; replacement already started with some cross-training, Karna's retirement party is April 30 from 2:30-4 pm. She's been a great asset to our office. Believe budget is on track. Bard Flanders leading a campaign to raise \$55,000 for conservation easement; Steve Wood, former Extension Educator, brought it to the attention of the Sullivan County Timberland Owners Association to raise funds in memory of Joe Szymujko – over \$5,000 to date.

**Hillsborough:** Budget process is from July-June and it has been initially presented to commissioners. There will be a presentation of the budget to the delegation sub-committee May 18. The county is looking at a new phone system and a couple of our administrative assistants are sitting in on meeting to discuss it. The county's beginning to look at a master plan process on about 400 acres of land and UNHCE should be able to be involved in the process. Public awareness – now put our county newsletter up on our site and another we use for families' at risk. Sent Highlights and county Highlights that accompanies it to all our delegation and to state senators and libraries. It came out at the right time, too, as it coincided with presentation to executive committee.

Connie Campbell talked about what's going on with the Family, Home and Garden Education Center and it's new "Ask A Master Gardener" efforts. The center also is taking in email queries; the number has probably increased 10-fold and are usually answered within 24 hours. The staff at center would like to extend an open invitation to council members to stop by if you're in Manchester.

Larry asked that a generic article about the center be provided so counties could use it.

**Rockingham:** There are three vacancies on council – we've been trying to get members with some background in program areas. A search committee is reviewing applications for the position of Extension educator, forestry, since Matt Tarr assumed a specialist position. Three finalists are coming to the May 14 council meeting. Council did some brainstorming on 4-H camp fundraising. Noted Claudia on Channel 9 on positive parenting topics, wanted to write a letter to station to get more support; Karen's financial programs – noted how other programs used volunteers to help with public awareness – will work on doing that with Karen's programs. 4-H Foundation golf tournament May 18. Council picnic at Bear Brook 4-H Camp in June with potluck dinner and do some work at the camp on June 11.

**Coos:** The county has 11 delegation members. During initial budget process, handed out annual educator reports, received positive comments from legislators who hadn't understood how

Extension fits into the communities. With the Operation Military project, it's just been a tremendous team effort, with outpouring of support from other organizations. Gearing up for *annual AC barbecue June 14*, a lot of delegation members come out for this. Extension office is a good location since it draws meetings from local groups. The budget passed, and they were able to give some money back to county. There is a banquet May 5 at Legion Post in Groveton as a fundraiser (all support donated) so each ticket goes directly to 4-H, big team helping.

**Carroll:** The budget passed with a unanimous vote. The new DVD also was very well accepted with our group. Chris Conlon gave a presentation on 4-H camps. A committee is looking for a new home; over time, when our office moved from Conway to Ossipee, landlord promises have not been kept; next steps is to see what's out there. It also was noted that for the first time, a town, Moultonborough, asked what they get for the 21 percent of the county budget, \$2.4 million, they pay for - every department was asked to defend what had been done in Moultonborough. A report was provided, and adding in the water resources program added at least a page to the report.)

### **Belknap County Update for the State Council Meeting 04/19/07 was sent by email**

Paul Rushlow, Kathy Conway-Frangione, Chair and Sumner Dole, COA, send their regrets.

12 Session, weekly Parenting & Child Development Series, offered in cooperation with Lakes Region United Way/UpStream and Laconia Adult Ed.

Amy's been working on a new program called Landscaping at the Water's Edge. A group of 6 Extension people wrote a book and curriculum they are delivering statewide. The program goal is to get lakefront property owners to switch to environmentally-sound landscape practices.

### **New Science and Technology Project**

In collaboration with Florida Extension and Florida Science Museum a new project "Wings" (butterfly identification and tracking) project will be offered in Belknap Co. Young people learn to ID North East butterflies and track them on a child friendly web site for scientist.

Members of the county council received new up-to-date council handbooks, read them cover-to-cover and have successfully passed their first test!

Still waiting to see if the maple season is over or not! YDC in Manchester, with private grant funds, has developed a maple sugaring program. Extension's Maple 101 was featured on the front page of the Union Leader.

The International Maple Syrup Institute's Maple Grading School developed by UNHCE with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and the Vermont Department of Agriculture is being hosted this October by Ohio State University Extension. This is the fourth year of this popular maple industry school.

**Presentation:**

Peter van Berkum presented a \$2,000 check to Dean Pike and Agricultural Resources Program Leader Juli Brussell, on behalf of the NH Plant Growers Association, to support travel for the new Extension greenhouse/floriculture specialist, when he/she is hired.

**Lunch**

Ken La Valley gave a presentation on the Sea Grant/ Water Resources – Commercial Fisheries Extension Program to the group.

The council was notified that there will be an Advisory Council day at 4-H Camp on July 25

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm.

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Up coming events:

Cheshire - Open Barn Day June 9

Grafton - County field day May 17

Sullivan - Karna’s retirement party is April 30 from 2:30-4 pm

Coos - banquet May 5 at Legion Post in Groveton as a fundraiser (all support donated) so each ticket goes directly to 4-H, big team helping.

On our web site [www.extension.unh.edu](http://www.extension.unh.edu) now has the draft meeting on the “ Counties” page.

**Join Us for Advisory Council 4-H Camp Day**

**Wednesday, July 25, 2007**

**Agenda**

**10 am Overview**

**10:30 Activity tours**

**Noon - Lunch**

**Rest Time & Help**

**Celebrate John Saturley's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

**Invited guests arrive at 1:30**

**Tour Camp**

**Program at 2:30 cake, ice cream, punch**

**3 pm - Safe Trip Home**

**Donation in lieu of gifts to 4-H Camp**

**CHILDREN & YOUTH BANQUET  
TO BENEFIT**

**“OPERATION MILITARY KIDS 4-H SUMMER CAMP”  
SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2007**

**5:30 P.M. SOCIAL**

**6:00 P.M. HOT/COLD BUFFET**

**MUSIC BY: BRUCE KIMBALL  
GROVETON AMERICAN LEGION HALL**

**\*\* PRIZES & SUPRISES \*\***

**DONATION: \$10.00 PER PERSON**

**Sponsored by: Fredonwarell Post #17 American Legion Family**

**Tickets Available**

<b>Willy Cowie</b>	<b>636-6085</b>	<b>AC memeber</b>
<b>Larry Barker</b>	<b>788-4961</b>	<b>Coos County office</b>
<b>Lee Hawksley</b>	<b>636-2795</b>	
<b>At the Post Home</b>	<b>636-9848</b>	

**COME AND HAVE FUN AND SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE**