

DRAFT

Minutes

State Advisory Council Meeting – Thursday, April 17, 2008

NH Higher Education Assistance Foundation Conference Center

Concord, NH

In attendance: Holly Avery, Anna Boudreau, Maria Callahan, Connie Campbell, Wes Cobb, Kathy Conway-Frangione, Fred Creed, Rebecca Cronin, Ann Marie Gilmartin, Paul Hennigan, Judith Kaufman, Ann Krantz, John Lyford, Martha McLeod, Lee Sawyer, Deb Spratt, Susan Turner, Linda Smith, Beth Todgham, Denis Ward, Hiram Watson, Paul Bonaparte-Krogh, Wendy Brock, Juli Brussell, Hugh Christian, Darrel Covell, David Foote, Jim Grady, John Pike and Shane Bradt. COAs: Larry Barker, Nancy Bradford-Sisson, Claudia Boozer-Blasco, Deb Cheever, Ann Hamilton, Chuck Hersey, Kathy Jablonski, Geoffrey Njue, Amy Ouellette

10 am – Anna Boudreau – Greeting and acceptance of April 2007 minutes

John Pike – Reviewed packet of materials handed out.

- Introduced Hugh Christian

Hugh Christian – Brief comments of greeting

County Round Table:

Introduction by Paul Bonaparte-Krogh

- Paul looking for “advice and counsel”
- Questions to be addressed:
 - o What do you need as a council in your county?
 - o What does your community need – which issues should Extension be paying attention to?

County Reports:

Belknap County

Kathy Conway-Frangione

- New forester getting up to speed – Andy Fast
- Issues: Teen pregnancy, drug and alcohol abuse, energy conservation

Carroll County

- Paul Hennigan – Community Needs – Support Alternative Energy (new building – county land)
- Support for local grown foods – farmers markets
- Need to address changing communities (issue) – changing community demographics
- Need to make community connections – marketing
- Need financing options for small farm growth and investment (SB loans, etc.)

Council Needs

- Building
- Full time 4-H Educator – want more programming for youth – more youth involvement
- Better public awareness
- Balancing program and marketing efforts – bang for the buck

- Hoping to take better advantage of specialists at UNH to help along the way

Sullivan County

County Issues Judith Kaufman:

- Profitability of small farms, wood lots
- Mass transportation in County
- Govt. regulations impacting farms and water quality
- Improve awareness of CE in County and 4-H
- Need to cross-fertilize with other counties
- Some areas of county need better access to news outlets – caught between newspaper areas and radio coverage
- Need for renewable sources of energy

Coös County

Larry Barker

Council Needs:

- Nothing surfaced from meeting

Community Needs:

- Retention of young people to live and work in the county
- Promoting COOS county as a place to live and work – negative press – bad news – challenging times – second home development issues – part time residential issues
- Forester doing facilitating at bringing people together to make good decisions based on good research
- Natural resources for growth and development
- Alternative energy – theme around exploring different mechanisms related to wood products
- Natural resource inventory need – discussion around improved infrastructure to support COOS county business – no cell phone service – dial up service only availability in some areas – infrastructure
- Desire for opps for higher education in COOS County – need campus in COOS county
- Desire for 1) recognition of Extension doing great things but 2) finding ways to tap into faculty and researchers in COOS county – to help foster new economic opps in county

Rockingham County

Susan Turner

Counsel Needs:

- Economics – part of goal 1 in Strategic Plan – different demographic looking for service than in previous times – requires flexibility to address current needs
- Losing two long term educators – 39 year 4H leader – Lynn – not being replaced for a while
- Rollie Barnaby to retire end of summer '08
- Marketing – how can we make sure of the wonderful work 4H does for the Community – more of a mass effort needed – so much to offer

Strafford County

Hiram Watson

Council Needs:

- Don Black retired December '07.
- New Educator came on in February

- Need better understanding of state and county budget process – need to act as advocates
- Losing 3 members of council – need to replace them and how to do it?
- In strategic plan – Family and Consumer Resources – How to save and reduce debt?
 - o Social Security and Financial planning for young adults entering workforce – 4-H -
 - SS design and goals
 - Benefits of a retirement plan – 401K, IRA, etc.
 - Taxes and how related to income?
 - How to save for a home?
 - Credit and its importance in your financial future
 - What’s wrong with having several credit cards? Could better educate young people on these items

Hillsborough County

Connie Campbell

Community Needs:

- Council Membership – always difficult
- Marketing – Hillsborough is rather unique demographically – have 2 big cities with classic suburbia – still are Agricultural county, people in cities account for 75% of county – very unaware of extension – people don’t realize scope of what we offer – some exception with 4-H – passed “Hillsborough County Contacts for Media”
- Loss of land to development, land fragmentation
- Energy conservation – use of water barrels (catch water runoff from roofs and use for watering plants, etc.) has been discussed – may be of benefit
 - o In Massachusetts – subsidy for water barrel purchase
- University relations – looking for better communication with UNH – green roof in Manchester –left over items were used at UNH for green roof – would like to work with them on other projects
- Communication and language is an issue in Manchester – many different languages
- Paul – Add in FHGC in Concord Monitor
- Is everyone familiar with Green Roof at Manchester City Hall – Many were not –
- Discussion of green roof – Actually planted with maintenance free plants – absorbs 80-90 % of what would runoff into the road system – nourishes plants – Mary Tebo coordinated the project

Merrimack County

Ann Marie Gilmartin/John Lyford

- County Issues
 - o Land Use – rural vs. urban, fast growing county, loss of farm land, loss of forestry
 - o Educating homeowners on landscaping
 - o How to landscape environmentally safe
 - o Energy, awareness for homeowners
 - o Retro-fitting homes for energy efficiency
 - o How to support and strengthen families?
 - o Better utilize resources seniors have to offer
 - They may not even realize what they have to offer
 - Encourage people to buy locally

Having a County conversation on 4/28 in Hopkinton

Cheshire County

Maria Callahan

- Have two vacancies on council
- Have husband and wife who wish to share a position
- Have 4-H Educator position they are starting to work on

Community Needs

- Middle School wants to construct a brand new school
- Home Ec program may be eliminated – Extension may be able to help in this area
- More inter-generational opportunities with the elderly – youth and elderly together
- Drop-out rate – Keene has one of the highest in the State
- Nutrition Education for youth and the elderly
- Teaching social skills to youth
- After-school activities for kids
- Wood products – economic competition from outside county
- Farm to school – field to table – buying local

Grafton County

Denis Ward

- Referenced benefits of using local wood/products for construction locally in NH – two letters referenced
- Timber industry is hurting – maintaining foresters is important
- Land use in relation to development – right-to-farm

Needs:

- Career development – building trades
- Education – youth development, parent education
- Need to educate kids that they need to be proud of where they live – enjoy health and lifestyle – so they'll stay in these counties and in NH
- More arts and cultural awareness as available in more urban areas
- Grafton needs
 - o Two educator positions to fill – both have started hiring process
 - o Building new jail, need to solve the drug problem vs. building bigger jails
 - o Need help for business start-ups
 - o Closer connection with UNH – have county farm which loses money – need to further develop use of this farm

At large comments:

Marketing – Will we be prepared to meet the needs - if well marketed?

Anna – education of legislators about CE is needed, not just the public

Juli Brussell – not necessarily marketing but public awareness

Jim Grady – Strategic Planning Implementation Team is planning as a group to make some formal recommendations about what can be done – hope to have public value training sessions and will hold regional meetings on the subject – Expert from Minnesota – may be invited to participate

Opportunity knocking at our door – public value is our segway to point out CE and to shine

Are we active in state legislation – we should be?

Suggestion – marketing – the name is an obstacle CE – is there a way to have a tag name – tag line that better identifies what we do – it's difficult to sell

Include all counties in statewide marketing (FHGC discussion)

Good, affordable housing is an issue

Strategic Plan Implementation Team Update

Amy Ouellette - Reported

- Reviewed green sheet with highlights of plan
- Took \$100K and dedicated to an RFP process to address significant issues in NH – 7 groups of people came forward
 - awarded 3 individuals with those grants
 - seafood and fisherman
 - work/family balance issues
 - working with volunteers on energy
- Working on formal recommendation to John re: significant issues
- In 2009 plan to offer another round of proposals for staff to address
- SPIT is discussing how to go about looking at capacity in all programs, Road should we go down? Are we meeting the mission?

After lunch:

Shane Bradt, Geospatial Technologies Extension Specialist, gave a presentation on his work with GIS and GPS training.

David Foote gave a brief presentation on eXtension and how to use selected features.

Adjourn 2pm