

UNH Cooperative Extension Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
October 2nd, 2006 9-4pm
New Hampshire Farm Bureau Federation, Concord, NH

Present: Charlie French, Thom Linehan, Juli Brussell, Lisa Townson, Matt Tarr, Julia Peterson, Amy Ouellette, and Val Long.

1. Review and Discussion of Issues Revision from 9/21:

The Committee went over the four “Issues” and changed the language of each one. It was decided by the Committee that in the new Strategic Plan, the “Issues” would now be called “Goals” (these are summarized on pg.3).

Goal 1:

- Who determines critical and emerging?
- What does critical mean?
- Document definitions

Goal 3:

- Regional/national efforts

The Committee would like to get input from Jim Grady, UNH Cooperative Extension Associate Director, on the following issues:

- Morale – lack of support
– overworked (for many reasons)
- Trust – between Durham and field
- Saying “no” especially when there isn’t another source of assistance
- Political Pressure
- Program Review

2. Committee discussion and revision – Vision:

The Committee discussed the current “Vision Statement” and made changes accordingly. It was also decided that “envisions” for UNH Cooperative Extension would be removed from the “Vision Statement” (see pg.2).

3. Committee discussion and revision – Mission Statement:

Revisions were made by the Committee to the “Mission Statement” (see pg.2).

4. Committee discussion and revision – Values:

The Committee made changes to the “Statement of Values” as well (see pg.2).

5. Continuation of discussion about getting staff input at county and specialist staff meetings:

Val explained that drafts of the “Goals”, “Vision”, “Mission Statement”, and “Values” could be distributed at county and specialist staff meetings for staff input. Below are some questions staff can answer about the 3 goals:

Questions

1. How is the goal relevant to your work?
2. Recommend three ideas to reach this goal.
3. What are the gaps?

6. State Advisory Council Meeting-October 26th

The committee discussed how to approach the State Advisory Council Meeting. We will have a short PowerPoint about the strategic planning process, and what we've done thus far, then have the Council members discuss the three issues (goals) by asking the following questions:

1. Is this issue (goal) still relevant?
 2. What do we do well?
 3. What are we not doing well?
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Vision Statement

UNH Cooperative Extension will establish the University as an institution engaged in effective educational outreach that responds to the needs of New Hampshire communities and citizens.

Mission Statement

UNH Cooperative Extension provides New Hampshire citizens with research-based education and technical assistance to enhance their ability to make informed decisions that strengthen youth, families and communities, sustain natural resources, and improve the economy.

Statement of Values

We value...

Our position...as a primary outreach unit of the University of New Hampshire, one of the nation's few comprehensive land, sea and space-grant universities.

Our formal partnerships...at the county, state, regional and national levels, enabling us to serve New Hampshire people.

Our collaborations...formal and informal working relationships with University faculty, individuals, community and statewide organizations, and regional partners.

Our responsibility...to involve citizens in identifying the needs of diverse audiences and provide educational opportunities to meet those most important needs not being met by other private or public efforts.

Our accessibility...engaging learners where they are, when they are available, providing diverse educational opportunities.

Our accountability to New Hampshire citizens and decision-makers...insuring that our educational efforts remain relevant, efficient, grass-roots based and continuously evaluated.

Our staff...well-educated, informed professionals with expertise, a desire to work collaboratively, and committed to accomplishing our mission through applied research, proven and innovative delivery methods and new technologies.

Our volunteers...their knowledge, contributions, and commitment to our mission.

Goals

Goal 1: UNH Cooperative Extension will enhance its responsiveness to significant issues in a changing social and natural environment

Goal 2: UNH Cooperative Extension will provide effective outreach and will be recognized as a central link between New Hampshire people and UNH resources.

Goal 3: The work of UNH Cooperative Extension will be valued by the people of New Hampshire, the University-system and supported by policy makers and funders.

Goal 4: UNH Cooperative Extension is evolving as a more effective, cohesive, healthy organization based on clarity of direction and shared priorities and goals.

The Committee is still working on goal 4 and this may be an internal goal, and not in the public document.