



North Carolina Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences

The Professional Association for North Carolina Cooperative Extension Family &
Consumer Sciences Educators

NCEAFCS mid year Board Meeting Lee County Extension Center January 19, 2005

Members Present:

Shenille R. Ford, Dee Furlough, Nancy Abasiekong, Tracy Davis, Margo Mosley, Rose. W. Massey, Karen Wicker, Margaret Bullock, Peggie Garner, Lisa Childers, Susan Condlin, Geissler Baker, Connie Sherrill, Sue Counts, Evelyn DeLoatch, Bess Hester-Whitt

Administrators present:

Dr. Sandy Zaslów, Dr. Carolyn Dunn

The meeting was called to order by President Nancy Abasiekong at 10:00 am. Susan Condlin and Nancy welcomed the group. Following the thought for the day, presented by Dee Furlough, the minutes were approved as posted on the web.

The audit committee met on December 27 and recommended to adopt a new reimbursement form that would include a check off for reimbursement and payment. A motion to accept that recommendation was made by Margaret Bullock and seconded by Rose Massey. The motion carried. Web master, Susan Condlin will post the form to the web. After further discussion, it was recommended that the President-Elect approve expenses of the President. The Reimbursement/Payment form will give a signature line for the President/President-Elect. It was also noted that the state treasurer is to attend the national meeting. Nancy stated that NCEAFCS Policies and Procedures states that the treasurer also attends the National Meeting to receive needed training (Appendix 1, filed with the Secretary). The treasurer should be informed of this provision and encouraged to attend.

The By-laws committee will need to make a change to the Policies and Procedures to reflect the addition of the President Elect's signature on the form.

Nancy presented a piece of pottery to Evelyn DeLoatch in recognition for her service as past president.

The following Program of work reports were given:

Awards and Recognition: Karen Wicker

The awards manual is on the NCEAFCS website. An on-line application must be submitted. The deadline for applications has been extended due to some technical changes. NC can submit only 3 DSA and Continued Excellence nominations. We can send in as many applicants as we receive for Extension Educator of the Year. Two new national level awards are the Healthy Living Education Grant and Excellence in 4-H After-School Programming awards. A motion was made by Rose Massey and seconded by Margaret Bullock to include these new awards on the state level.

Professional Development: No Report

Member Resources: Connie Sherrill

Nine Cards were sent to new members with three members being recognized with the creed. Members will help co-ordinate Life member applications.

By-Laws: Dee Furlough

Plan of Work has been posted

Budget: Margo Mosely

A balanced budget was presented based on 130 members which required a transfer from savings and endowment totaling 2900.29.

Web master: Susan Condlin

Questioned the group as to whether beginning plans or annual reports should be posted.

Nominating: Deborah Howard

No report

Historian: Brenda Morris

No Report

State Life Member: Ila Parker

Working on retirees get together at State Meeting

State meeting: Rose Massey

The annual meeting will be held Sept. 6-8 at the Ramada Inn at Kill Devil Hills. The Executive Board will meet at 10 am on Sept. 6 followed by the opening luncheon at 1pm. Special room rates offered include \$109 oceanfront, \$99 dune, and \$89 street view, all with 12% occupancy fee. The Theme is FCS - A Mighty Force Coming Together. July 15th will be early bird registration deadline. Rooms can be reserved by calling 1-800-635-1824.

Dr. Sandy Zaslow and Dr. Carolyn Dunn gave the group an **FCS Update**. Dr. Zaslow first thanked Dr. Dunn for representing her at the state meeting. She also thanked agents across the state for

their input in her performance review. She stated that in her meeting with the Dean, the positive support shared by county staff was pointed out in her review.

In updates, she announced that the EFNEP Coordinator position is currently being advertised. Rose Massey is serving on that review team. Dr. Zaslow commended Lorelei Jones and Stephanie Tatum for their serving together as interim. Dr. Dunn is heading the search committee and will let agents know when interviews will be held. A Human Development position, half Extension and half Academic is also being advertised. The HD focus is yet to be determined. The search committee has met and hopes to interview soon.

The Academic program is moving ahead with degree approval which should soon be approved. The program has been utilized by county staff and has been a way to add FCS programming to academic needs.

Dr. Zaslow reported that since Carol Schwab has left, there have been some concerns expressed about the Estate Planning materials and their need to be consistently updated. Dr. Celvia Stovall, Dr. Ed Jones and Dr. Zaslow have talked and decided to close the materials currently available on the web. They are working with staff from Ag and Resource Economics to get information updated and available. Susan Condlin requested that an official letter from the Department be sent, to notify all county staff of closing of estate planning website and provide guidance on use of old Estate Planning materials.

The FCS Dept. is proud that our next National Association president is from North Carolina, and wants to help honor her presidency, with both Dr. Zaslow and Dr. Dunn part of her recognition. A commitment of funds not in excess of \$500 was made by Dr. Zaslow.

Dr. Zaslow noted that there are still some concerns with ECA and the direction they seem to be taking. She noted that some counties have decided to break from the State organization and she asked what could be done to help revitalize the organization. A discussion followed about the benefits of having ECA groups and the need to share this message with new and younger FCS Agents in particular. Another concern expressed was that meetings are scheduled, for CED's in particular, that conflict with timing of important ECA meetings. Dr. Zaslow thanked the group for their comments supportive of ECA and noted that they are a very valuable support base for us.

Unity Retreat...Dr. Zaslow and Sue Counts discussed the make up and objectives for the Unity Retreat. They encouraged the group to check out the Progress Board Report which can be linked to from the intranet home page. This report will provide a basis for possible new directions for Cooperative Extension. They pointed out that there will also be an opportunity for agent input at Annual Conference.

Dr. Zaslow pointed out the need for FCS to be able to provide economic impacts for both CED's, DED's and for others outside of Extension. She also stated that the toolkit training had been postponed

as there may be a change in emphasis based on the results of the Unity Retreat as well as information received at annual conference. Shenille Ford mentioned the challenge in cost analysis, when changes in people can span a time frame of 2 years or more.

Dr. Dunn noted an upcoming meeting for the FCS Foundation at which a prospective board will be named. With the foundation, there will now be a “home” for funds from retired individuals such as Nadine Tope and Eloise Cofer funds. The Dean was present at the signing of the first “official endowment” honoring Dr. Judy Mock. Draft By-Laws and Policies and Procedures have been developed for the Foundation.

In response to a question about the relationship of the “Program Council” to the FCS foundation, Dr. Zaslow requested guidance from the group on structure for that group. Dr. Dunn stated that Donna Ritter has comprised a list of current FCS agents. County staff is requested to email Donna with personnel changes as that information is not available from University Personnel.

A discussion followed of current FCS input in the hiring and interview process for new FCS staff. Sue Counts noted that the CED would have to push for that input. The question arose as to whether or not the association should encourage Departmental input in the interviewing process as this could help keep the Department more aware of changes in county staff.

Dr. Zaslow stated that the FCS Annual Report is coming.

Peggie Garner reported that there had been little response as to requests for the display for **“Living Well Week.”** She pointed out that the week long celebration was initiated to educate legislators as to impacts of FCS programs and to request special recognition during this week. It was requested that Dr. Zaslow contact Drs. Ort and Zublena with the objectives behind the week’s celebration and seek their approval for seeking legislative endorsement, as North Carolina’s response to this nationwide effort. Dr. Zaslow stated that she saw no problem with the Association requesting a proclamation from the Governor to recognize LWW.

Peggy showed the display and received additional requests from some members present to use the display. Further information and materials that could be used for promotion are found at the NEAFCS Living Well website and on CD’s received from National. Margaret Bullock requested that we seek pricing information in North Carolina to see if duplication of the display is economically feasible.

Dr. Zaslow noted that there may be some pending changes in the location for Extension personnel currently housed in Ricks Hall. The 4-H Staff has announced a move and other staff may need to move as Ricks Hall is being requested by another department on campus.

Dr. Zaslow thanked the group for their work and support. She stated that “we want our department and resources to support you.”

Under new business, it was noted that the FCS Foundation will be rolled out at Annual Conference. A new committee on governance is looking at structure, with possibly 3 regions in the state. Discussion followed on a continual roll out process across the state in hopes of generating both one time contributions and possible inclusion of the Foundation in estate planning. Dr. Ort has sanctioned the process. Nancy Abasiokong asked for any other comments on the Foundation. By-Laws and Policies and Procedures committees have met and drafted documents for consideration. A rotation system for board members has been discussed. Association members are asked to think of people in our districts who may be willing to make contributions.

Margo Mosely has had a request for names of retirees from Foundation representatives. She requested clarification and guidance from the Board on policies in place for sharing membership lists. Evelyn DeLoatch suggested the possibility of sending a letter to retirees to request their input as to distribution of names and addresses. Peggie Garner suggested that to save funds, we could defer to Ila Parker, State Retiree Representative. The consensus of the group was to defer to Ila to decide how to proceed. Nancy Abasiokong asked to be kept in the communication loop. It was also suggested that we seek input from the 4-H Foundation to see how they handled similar requests.

District Presidents Reports:

Rose Massey reported that the Northeast District combined their fall meeting with their District huddle. They met at the Ramada Inn at Kill Devil Hills and are busy meeting monthly making plans for the state meeting.

Sue Counts reported that the Western District met at the John Campbell Folk School with 15 members present. A folklorist gave a history of the school. Members who attended National reported on that meeting.

Margaret Bullock reported that the North Central District met in Smithfield for their fall meeting. The program was “Getting the Monkeys off your Back.” Tours of the Genealogical Museum in Smithfield followed the program and business meeting.

Geissler Baker reported that the North West District met in Greensboro. The program “How to Eat the Elephant that is Blocking Your Path” was presented by Mrs. Jackie Stanley. They also toured the Old Mill of Guilford. Members received a report from national and deposited the bulk of their treasury funds in the Ag Foundation.

Lisa Childers reported that the South Central district met in Stanley County in October at Dennis Vineyard. The topic was agri-tourism. Members received a report from national and officers were installed.

Shenille Ford reported that the Southeast District met at the New Hanover County Extension

Office and enjoyed a program “Discovering Your Abilities” at the New Hanover Arboretum. She reported that Mary Jones has resigned as CED in Jones County and Marcia Flynt is a new agent in Jones County.

Tracey Davis reported for the Southwest district that they met at Dill Orchards in Alexander County for their spring meeting. They spent their time in preparation for hosting the state meeting.

Margaret Bullock stated that she is the necrologist for ESP and asked for input as to feelings about membership in that organization. We decided to hold that discussion until later in the meeting.

Under old business Evelyn DeLoatch reported that North Carolina’s Delegation at the National Meeting numbered approximately 50 representatives. This was the shortest business meeting she has ever attended at National. A \$10 increase in dues passed. She reported that she expected to see another dues increase forthcoming. Workshops were good. Peggie Garner stated that Michele and Wendy, from the management company, did an outstanding job at organizing the meeting. Voting delegates were reminded to make sure that their travel allotment was increased by the \$500 allocated for delegates representing the Association.

Karen Wicker reported on Federation meeting. Items discussed included merit pay, travel allocations, marketing and fee for service programming. She noted that the Unity Retreat would continue to focus on program and marketing input. The validity of the Horn of Plenty meal at the County Commissioners meeting was debated, and the situation in Mecklenburg County discussed. Federation members were apprised of the potential move of Extension personnel from Ricks Hall on campus. With regard to Mecklenburg County, the potential reinstatement of two area FCS persons, one in housing and one in housing and recycling was mentioned.

Under New Business, a discussion took place on how to best recognize North Carolina FCS Association member, Marilyn Gore, as national president. One suggestion was to ask Marilyn for her wishes. Another was to make a donation to the 75th Anniversary Endowment campaign in honor of Marilyn. Evelyn DeLoatch made a motion to send a recommendation to District Associations for us to request a donation of \$10.00 per member to be donated to the National Endowment campaign in Marilyn's honor. Donations should go through the district treasury to the state treasury so one donation could come from NC in Marilyn’s honor. Margaret Bullock seconded the motion which passed. Donations will be requested by July 1, so a presentation can be made at the State Meeting in September. Nancy Abasiekong will get paperwork to make members aware and Susan Condlin was requested to place a notice to include on our state web page.

We revisited the idea of the FCS Program Council. It was decided that at district spring meetings, two members would be asked from each district to serve on the state level advisory committee. Nancy will ask Dr. Zaslow what to call that group and to see if she has other thoughts as to numbers to represent each district.

The group also revisited the topic of Epsilon Sigma Phi. The feeling of the group is that the membership committee of ESP needs to more actively recruit members as they become eligible for membership. The group used to be more visible with their annual meeting taking place during Annual Conference, but the Fraternity is not as visible as it once was. Therefore more marketing will be needed to recruit and maintain members.

A committee of Evelyn DeLoatch, Tracy Davis and Geissler Baker was appointed to review today's minutes.

Karen Wicker volunteered to serve as the FCS representative on the Extension Awards Committee.

Announcements:

JCEP Southern Regional Leadership and Professional Development Workshop on Feb. 17-19 in Nashville Tennessee - Delegates Nancy Abasiekong and Dee Furlough

NCAFCFCS State Meeting March 10-12, 2005 - Delegates Nancy Abasiekong and Dee Furlough

Public Issues Leadership Development Conference/ PILD, April 17-20 Washington DC -

Delegates Nancy Abasiekong and Karen Wicker

2005 NCEASFCS State Meeting, Sept. 5-6 Kill Devil Hills, NC

2005 NEAFCS National Meeting, Sept. 25-29, Philadelphia, Pa.

Karen Wicker has a scholarship to PILD. Nancy Abasiekong has submitted a list of NC officers for the National Web Site and will work with Susan to post on State Web site if needed.

Susan Condlin announced that North Carolina will be host to the 2005 National Chicken Cooking Contest in May of 2005. This will be held in Charlotte.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Abasiekong
NCEAFCS President

Bess Hester-Whitt
NCEAFCS Secretary