



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

January 18, 2006

Brickhaven Building

Raleigh, North Carolina

Members Present: Dee Furlough, Peggie Garner, Georgia Kight, Sue Counts, Karen, Wicker, Judy West, Susan Condlin, Susan Morgan, Bess Hester Whitt, Shari Farless, Jeannie Leonard, Shenile Ford, Nancy Abasiokong, Tres Magner, Margaret Allsbrook, Sally McNeill, Susan Garkalns, Dr. Carolyn Dunn, and Dr. Sandy Zaslow.

President Dee Furlough welcomed everyone and called the Mid-Year Board Meeting of the NCEAFCS to order at 10:00 a.m. Peggie Garner, President Elect shared the Thought for the Day, "Opening Our Eyes to the Beauty Around Us". A copy of the minutes from the annual meeting was distributed by Bess Hester Whitt and it was noted that the minutes had been posted on the web. Having no corrections or additions, Nancy Abasiokong moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes. It was seconded by Jeannine Leonard.

Treasurer's Report: Georgia Kight, Treasurer presented the Treasurer's Report for the period from December 5, 2005 to January 18, 2006. Printed copies of the financial report were made available. The beginning balance in the checking account was \$596.45 and the ending balance was \$2,262.89. The beginning balance in the State Employees Credit Union Share Account was \$30.81 and the ending balance \$30.81. The beginning balance in the Money Market Share Account was \$13,542.86 and the ending balance \$16,808.49. The NC Cooperative Extension Foundation Fund contains \$24,410.00 and the Income Account contains \$2,604.09 for a total amount of \$27,014.09. Georgia further indicated the books had been successfully audited by Frances Turner, Debbie Stroud, and Georgia Kight. Margo Mosely, Treasurer, was present to answer any questions.

2006 Program of Work Update: Karen Wicker, VP Public Affairs encouraged everyone to get their Program of Work plans into Susan Condlin, Webmaster, as soon as possible. Several have already been sent. Karen suggested that Chairpersons go back to last year's report to see exactly what is to be done and make changes as needed.

Living Well Week: Karen complimented Peggie Garner for the wonderful job she had done on the campaign in 2005. In 2006, Living Well Week will be observed March 12 – 18. There is a banner that can be borrowed; however it does need some work. Karen will take care of this as soon as possible. The banner can be used as is, if it is to be used inside. Anyone wishing to use the banner should e-mail Karen Wicker and she will schedule the dates. For anyone who needs more information on the Campaign, they can go on the web and check out the NEAFCS Living Well Campaign or go the NCEAFCS website and find the link.

There are mini grants available for Public Affairs, professional development in 2006. These range in value from \$300 to \$1,000. Information can be found on the NEAFCS website. In addition, there is an

affiliate Living Well Award which will be awarded in Denver, Colorado this year at the national meeting.

Awards and Recognition: Sue Counts indicated that the 2006 Plan of Work has been posted on the web. There were two applications for the Ada Dalla Pozza Award which are currently being judged. Information on the winner is to go to Vickie Petite by February 1, 2006 so that the information can be shared at the District meetings. Sue received an e-mail from Johanna Hahn, the VP for Awards and Recognition at the National level indicating the revised 2006 Awards Manual has been posted to the web. Currently registration on-line is not possible until mid February. Sue proposed that February 20th be the deadline date for awards applications this year, rather than February 1, as in the past. She will work with Susan Condlin to get the information out to all districts VP of Awards and Recognition. All awards should then be sent to Group A and Group B Chairs by February 27. Judging should be complete by March 10th and then the final information returned back to Sue by March 15th. Peggie Garner pointed out that we may have to adjust our timeline schedules for several more years until National has the information up and running smoothly on the web.

Professional Development: Debbie Stroud was not present.

Member Resources: Judy West reported that the Plan of Work had been updated.

By-Laws: Peggie Garner reported that she had received several reports from District Presidents. If anyone has anything that needs to be addressed, please e-mail Peggie. Dee Furlough shared that Susan Condlin had posted the final update of the By-Laws from the State meeting.

Webmaster: Susan Condlin reported that when she receives information for the web, she will let the person know by e-mail when it is posted. Also, information will be posted in a PDF format, as this is more secure. She requested that information sent should be checked for spelling and edited as necessary. Susan does try to edit, but encouraged members to check it first. Dee asked if Susan had received officers list from all districts. Currently she is still missing information from the North Central, Northeast, and West Districts. Technically the District Presidents could send the information or the Chairperson of the various committees. She has received everything from the Executive Board. There was a question regarding who had the current membership list. Susan suggested that District Presidents, contact their District Treasurers and have her/him send the information to Susan via e-mail. Awards are coming up and when that information is available, she will post it to the web.

Nominating: Susan Morgan requested that District Presidents send the list of officers for the coming year to her as soon as each district has its Spring Meeting. She also reminded everyone to double check the web for the State Officer Rotation. Our association will have the President of Federation next year. Susan Condlin is the 2006 Federation President and will be Advisor in 2007.

Budget: Georgia Kight reported that Margo Mosely has passed out the recommended budget for 2006 at the State Meeting. At this time there is nothing new to report. She indicated that she wanted to report on total membership, but the information is incomplete and she will share this information at a later date. Sue Counts added that if dues are not paid you are not eligible to apply for an award. February 1 is the deadline for dues.

Historian: Debbie Cox was not present but sent a message through Dee Furlough. Debbie reminded all District Presidents to take a group photo of all their members at the Spring Meeting. This helps with historical archiving. History reports are due by July 1st. Forms to record historical events will be sent to district chairs in May. Remember to keep all programs, retiree's information, deaths, and association

committee work and awards records. Association Presidents were also reminded that all historical records of FCS and 4-H could be sent to: Todd Kosmerick, University Archivist
Special Collection NCSU Libraries
Campus Box 7111
Raleigh, NC 27695
(919)515-3673

State Life Member: Sandra Brown was not present.

State Meeting: Peggie Garner shared that the NCEAFCS will be at the Sheraton Hotel in Newbern, August 14 – 17, 2006. Members were asked to share any information or ideas that they would like to see changed or tweaked and to e-mail this to Peggie. Currently they are waiting on the evaluations from the Northeast District.

Living Well Week Plans: Karen Wicker reported that there was no new major information, but she encouraged everyone to check out the website and look at celebrating it, not only March 12-18, but at other times during the year. Be sure to let Karen know what you do and make pictures and e-mail them to her. Peggie Garner added that members should periodically go to the website because last year there was enough money to have two rounds of mini grants available. She also stated that they look at collaboration, so districts may want to consider applying for one.

FCS Update: Dr. Sandy Zaslow stated that the FCS agents across the state who have been working with Medicare Part D deserve a Gold Star and a round of applause. She encouraged the agents who have worked with this program to consider applying for some type of state award and noted that this was a wonderful collaborative effort. Dr. Zaslow also commended the Northeast District for the wonderful State Meeting in Nags Head. She was delighted to see so many agents in attendance. She thanked Nancy and her Board and Dee and her Board for working so well together under the circumstances where the duties and responsibilities overlapped.

Dr. Zaslow asked for clarification regarding National awards and letters of support from the State Program Leader. She will be more than happy to supply these letters if they are needed. It was pointed out that each award has different requirements and that on some the District Directors may be used for these letters. The State staff is very supportive of these FCS endeavors and will be happy to assist whenever possible.

Dr. Carolyn Dunn shared information on the upcoming FCS training to be held the week of June 12 -16. This was originally scheduled for the second week in May, but had to be changed for several reasons, including working around the FCS Department revue. There are still a number of conflicts, but Dr. Dunn pointed out that many of the conflicts were not posted to the Extension calendar. Even with a number of conflicts, it is hoped that Agents will be able to attend some of the scheduled programs and will register on the new LMS system. She pointed out that there has been a shift away from subject matter training to process training. Since the State meeting, once held every year for one week, changed to every other year for only three days, we have had to move away from in-depth subject matter training. The FCS department is looking at offering some broad subject area training, not only for new agents, but to also assist agents who have had to move into covering more areas in respective counties. Plenary sessions will be offered rather than concurrent, so that everyone has the opportunity to attend all the areas. The training will include the expertise of both NC State University and NC A & T State University. Comments from agents on subject matter training will be welcomed.

Dr. Zaslow indicated that the FCS Department, as a member of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, must undergo a comprehensive revue this year. This happens every seven to ten years and involves compiling a very detailed report, including grants, budgets, trainings, programs, collaborations, etc. A review team of State Program Leaders and others, with no connection to our program, are brought in. The process usually takes 3-5 days. Dr. Zaslow said that the state staff would involve agents in anything that involves programs. Agents will be kept abreast of the process and upon conclusion of the review, all the information will be posted on the website.

Dr. Zaslow asked if anyone needed information on the Change Management Initiative roll-out. Shari Farless asked if this would pass. Dr. Zaslow responded that initially it looked as if 4-H and FCS would not be included as a program area, however that has changed and both are now included. She further indicated that we are going to have to be incredibly aware of outcomes and impacts and we are also going to have to look at how we can justify economic impacts of our programs. This is not always possible but this is just one of the reasons we started the process last May. Additional information will be provided at the June training sessions.

Susan Morgan asked if the State would continue to support travel for trainings through grants, etc. Dr. Zaslow responded that they have tried to support travel for state trainings. She also asked that agents let her know if they were running into problems having enough money for travel. Dr. Dunn added that at the Program Leaders CMT meeting they had argued strongly for travel to be supported but they did not get very far. The result was that training would be supported, but they would be unable to support the travel. If county travel budgets are not sufficient enough, the state staff needs to be notified. They do not want anyone to not be able to attend the June training because of a lack of travel funds. Dr. Zaslow asked the board to think of things that the state staff can do to support field faculty. Dr. Zaslow thanked the districts for submitting the names of agents who will serve on the FCS Program Council committee. The names are as follows:

- SE Peggie Garner (Onslow County)
 Regina Bell (Carteret County)

- W Renay Knapp (Henderson County)
 Tres Magner (Avery County)

- NE Ann Darkow (Beaufort County)
 Amanda Hubbard (Dare County)

- SC Molly Alexi (Stanley County)
 Sandra Kelly (Bladen County)

- SW Glennie Daniels (Catawba County)
 Julie Padgett (McDowell County)

- NC Margaret Bullock (Warren County)
 Bess Whitt (Person County)

- NW Deborah Womack (Forsyth County)
 Sherrie Peeler (Alleghany County)

After the change management team rolls out, this will be a wonderful opportunity to bring this group

back together.

Dr. Zaslow suggested that we still use the long-range plan until further notice. Keep using this and the objectives until we have something different. She has also suggested to Robin Roper that she should work with Denise Baker to try to pull a group of agents together to discuss some issues concerning ECA. Nancy Abasiekong suggested that a member of the association should be on the committee. We are not abandoning ECA, as Dr. Zaslow feels strongly about the relationship between FCS and ECA from the members followed indicating the continued need for the ECA organization. Peggie Garner pointed out that in many cases ECA members are the spokespersons in the county for the FCS program. There is concern that in all counties the CED's and DED may not have a clear understanding of the importance of the organization. Dr. Zaslow stated that it has been a challenge at the administrative level as well, and that she really needs the Association's help in showing support around the things that are so important to the FCS program.

Dr. Zaslow suggested that we have to do a better job of marketing our programs and what we do to our CED's and DED's. Discussion followed regarding a marketing piece, specifically for FCS. Dr. Dunn pointed out that it is difficult to communicate what FCS does. It becomes so watered down; it looks like we do nothing. Dr. Zaslow issued a challenge to the Board to e-mail her or Dr. Dunn with ideas or suggestions as to what would specifically help us as agents in terms of marketing. Georgia Kight felt it was important to have information in order to let people know what we do. Bess Whitt suggested that FCS needs a shared vision to give to our constituents. Dr. Zaslow indicated that we are not powerless. What we need to do is share the economic aspect and the value added that we do. Nancy Abasiekong thanked Dr. Zaslow and Dr. Dunn for the time and expertise shared with the organization and how very important these discussions on key issues are in helping us to move forward. Dr. Zaslow suggested that Spring District meetings might be a good time for districts to come together and discuss some of these issues. Dr. Zaslow feels that the best opportunity to bring about change begins at the county level with CED's and our DED's.

President Dee Furlough called for District Presidents Reports:

North Central – Bess Whitt reported that the spring meeting is scheduled for April 7th in Greenville and a date has not yet been set for the fall meeting.

Northeast – Shari Farless reported that their district was very privileged to host the 2005 State meeting. The meeting was successful and the district broke even. In addition, they were able to refund everyone who requested a refund. The Northeast spring meeting will be held April 28th in Beaufort County. No date has been set for the fall meeting.

Northwestern – Jeannie Leonard reported that the fall meeting was held in Lexington on October 28th at the Cooperative Extension office. A business meeting was conducted, and new officers were installed. Jeannie presented a program on "Preserving Your Family Heritage" through scrap booking. Following lunch, a tour was made of Childress Vineyards, the only winery in Davidson County. The spring meeting will be held on May 19th in Denton. A fall meeting has not been scheduled.

South Central – Karen Wicker for Susan Noble reported that a representative from the Citizen Soldier Program spoke at their fall meeting. South Central District will host the 2007 State Meeting. Plans are already underway. The spring meeting is scheduled for May 19th in Chatham County.

Southeast, Shenile Ford –reported that the fall meeting was held in Carteret County. Spring meeting is set for April 7, but may be subject to change. The first State planning meeting was held in Duplin County in January. Shenile also reported that Robin Taylor is the leader for the project, FCS Gets Fit. She reminded everyone that anyone on your staff who is interested can participate.

Southwest, Sally McNeill – reported the fall meeting was held on October 28 in Rutherford County at the KidsSenses Children's Interactive Museum. New officers were installed at that meeting. Spring

meeting will be April 28th and the location and program topic are undetermined at this time.

West, Tres Magner –reported the fall meeting was held at Crossnore School, Inc. in October. Agents toured the facility and the children’s home. Spring meeting has not yet been set as this is an unpredictable time in the mountains. The meeting may be held in June.

Old Business

2005 Federation Forum Report –Peggie Garner reported they had a really full day in Lee County. Susan Condlin was installed as President which is very positive for FCS. A large portion of the program was spent hearing from and thanking Dr. Ort, Dr. Zublena, and Dr. Wynne, etc for the time they spent on the Wage Compression Study. A plaque of appreciation was presented to them thanking them for all the time and effort spent on making this happen. Shielda Sutton also attended Federation Forum. She gave comments and represented NC A&T State University and was given a plaque also.

Dr. Ort reported that Dole Industries is coming to North Carolina with locations in Kannapolis, Bessemer City and possibly a third location in Wilson or Edgecomb County.

There was also a discussion regarding fees for service. Iowa has a model that is being looked at and considered.

Peggie reported that the meeting was very positive and that there were lots of opportunities to see what is going on in the other Associations.

Sandy Zaslou encouraged all members to send a thank-you note or email to Dr. Wynne to thank him for all he did to get salaries adjusted. He was the key person in making this happen...

eExtension FAQ submission – Nancy Abasiekong shared information about the program and encouraged members to visit the website at (intranet.eXtension.org). This is the way we need to be getting our information out. We should also promote that this is the link to our nationwide network and is available 24/7. Visit the website to see what North Carolina has contributed to the eXtension website. Nancy shared that agents could go to FCS webpage, “from the Director’s Desk” and there you will find information on criteria for submitting questions.

Hurricane Relief – Dee Furlough –reported that there was discussion at the State meeting pertaining to the Hurricane Relief and it was decided that the topic would be addressed at the January Board meeting. To date there has only been one request from Oklahoma NEAFCS issuing a challenge for each state to match their contribution of \$200 to be sent to each of the three states, Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana for relief efforts. Dee read a letter stating what has been done to this point and how the money has been distributed to affiliate members in these three states. There was uncertainty at this point if they were still collecting money and if there was still a need. Discussion followed. Peggie Garner made a motion to send \$200 to each state for a total of \$600. Karen Wicker seconded the motion, passed. Dee will make the necessary contact to let them know the money is forthcoming.

New Business:

FCS Foundation: Maurene Rickards shared information with the Board about the successful kick off event held at the State meeting for the FCS Foundation. Each member received an ink pen, marketing the Foundation. District Presidents were encouraged to take a few extras for their Spring District meetings. District Presidents received a packet of information to be shared at the spring meetings and were asked to help promote the Foundation. If time permitted, Maurene would be happy to come to each District and share information on the Foundation.

Currently the Foundation has a Board of Directors and thirty members, including a slate of officers. Frances Voliva, President, Kay Seville, 1st Vice-President, Sue Counts, 2nd Vice-President, Lynne Qualls, Secretary, Joy Page, Community Vice-President is Treasurer. The first meeting was held in November. The upcoming meeting will be used to map out strategies for the coming year.

Several new gifts have been received and they are as follows:

- Dinah Gore Endowment for Family and Consumer Sciences totals \$250,000 to be used to fund new curriculum for foods and nutrition and etiquette. This is part of the largest endowment CALS has received.
- Mozell Parker, a valued and long-time member of ECA established a charitable gift annuity to help support the FCS position in Scotland County. This is an example of an ECA member who valued ECA and her relationship with her FCS agent and wanted to give something back.

Maurene asked for everyone's support of the Foundation. She further emphasized that if we do not support the Foundation it will be difficult to get the support of others. District Presidents received pledge cards for every agent. We are encouraged to become a member of the Founding Circle of Friends. This is a donation of \$100 that can be given in \$25 increments over a period of four years. Members are encouraged to keep in mind that the Foundation is there to help support us and our programs.

Maurene shared that Loreli Jones, state EFNEP Coordinator is interested in establishing an endowment to support programming for program assistants to provide funding for professional development. Maurene further explained that Agents could contribute to any of the endowments under our FCS Foundation and still become a member of the Circle of Friends. Contributions given would go into the category of unrestricted funds and none of this money is used to pay salaries, etc, rather to support programming.

Benevolence –Dee Furlough reported that after carefully reviewing our By-laws Policies and Procedures, our organization has nothing concerning benevolence. Several agents have requested that our Association make a contribution to the FCS Foundation on behalf of Andrew Wicker. Discussion followed. Bess Whitt made a motion that we make a contribution to the Foundation on behalf of Andrew Wicker in the amount of \$25.00. She further suggested that a committee be put in place to address this issue and create a policy. Nancy Abasiekong seconded, passed. Sandy Zaslow requested that the state staff would like to participate and add to this amount, up to \$100. Georgia Kight suggested that the motion be amended. Susan Morgan made a motion to contribute \$25.00 from NEAFCS and \$75.00 from the State staff for a total of \$100.00. Peggie Garner seconded, passed. It was decided that we would revisit the memorial after a policy is set and bring the NEAFCS donation amount up to the newly set amount, if it is different.

Susan Condlin suggested that dues not be raised but use \$1.00 of current dues to be earmarked for Benevolence. There was no further discussion and Dee asked Judy West, Member Resources, to chair this committee. There needs to be a policy developed on the district and state levels.

4-H Foundation request – Dee Furlough indicated that as President of the NCEAFCS she has been asked to secure an auction item for the 4-H Gala. Dee had received a nice gift basket at the association meeting in December and volunteered to donate that for the auction. Items will be auctioned on eBay.

Extension Awards Committee – Dee Furlough shared that the association has been asked to appoint one person to serve on the committee. Peggie Garner was asked and agreed to serve.

PILD Delegate – Dee Furlough is unable to attend PILD Conference due to prior commitments in her county. The President and VP Public Affairs are supposed to attend PILD. Dee Furlough is unable to attend PILD due to prior commitments in her county. Karen Wicker, VP Public Affairs can attend. After discussion, it was decided that members of the Board (descending order) would be asked if one of them could attend in Dee’s place. Peggie Garner, President-Elect, agreed to attend as the second delegate.

Ways to maximize professional development for all members as a result of attending the PILD or JCEP Conferences was discussed at State meeting. President Dee Furlough asked the Board for ideas of ways to share this information. Suggestions included the following:

1. Table top exhibits at the State Meeting.
2. Attendees could offer 60 – 90 minute workshops at State meeting.
3. Information could be shared via the website.
4. Attendees could write follow-up article(s) to be posted on website.
5. Agents receiving Masters Degrees and conducting research may want to share research findings with others.
6. Presentations from agents attending National meeting and workshops attended.
7. Opportunities to share mini sessions in District meetings as well.

Dee suggested that we need to establish a plan to follow through with these ideas in order to share professional development opportunities across the state. It was also suggested that if an agent participates in an educational opportunity that he/she have a forum to present information to the group through one or more than one of the ideas previously sited.

Other New Business

Susan Condlin reminded the Board of the importance of Federation. She reminded us that it was a voice for total Extension. Members were encouraged to use this as a forum for bringing up issues that affect all Extension, not FCS specific concerns. These should be addressed to Sandy Zaslow.

President Dee Furlough asked Nancy Abasiekong, Tres Magner and Jeannie Leonard to serve as the Minute Review Committee.

Announcements of upcoming dates for the 2006 were made. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dee Furlough, President

Susan C. Garkalns
Secretary