



## *National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences*

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**NCEAFCS Mid-Year Board  
January 13, 2014  
10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Brickhaven Building, Raleigh, NC**

President Molly Alexi hosted a continental breakfast buffet, then called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. She welcomed Dr. Carolyn Dunn, Interim Department head, Family and Consumer Sciences, and Dr. Mitzi Downing, Assistant State 4-H and Family and Consumer Sciences Program Leader.

Sherrie Peeler read the **Thought for the Day**. The poem gave good ideas to share good thoughts and actions for others each day.

**Roll call** was provided by self-introductions, present were:

Sally McNeill	Jayne McBurney	Sherrie Peeler
Eve Rogers	Kelly Beasley	Carmen Long
Molly Alexi	Christine Smith	Yvonne Mullen
Rachel Monteverdi (shadowing Yvonne Mullen)	Debra Womack	
Meleah Collier	Debbie Cox	Margie Mansure
Robin Seitz	Shenille Ford	

Debbie Cox moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes, Sherrie Peeler second, vote was unanimous. Sherrie Peeler moved to accept the minutes as presented, second by Yvonne Mullen with unanimous approval.

Carmen Long gave the **Treasurer's Report**.

### **FCS Administrative Updates:**

Dr. Mitzi Downing spoke of the Listening Sessions and the importance of them, she is pleased by the involvement of the board at those sessions. She encouraged all to go to the comment link and make their voice heard. She has been meeting with specialist about visioning and their thoughts.

Next week the Visioning Team will meet for three days. She noted that they will focus on where we want to be in 50 years. What will we look like?

The March Institutes will be March 13& 14 in Hickory and March 18&19 in Greenville. A survey was sent last week for training needs, over 65 have responded. The survey responses will guide training throughout the year. There is no central session due to budget constraints.

A proposed budget has been received from Center for Creative Leadership for Women & Leadership. Mitzi will meet with Sonja Murphy about fundraising for this program. Debbie Cox asked how willing the ECA members have been to step up and get involved. Mitzi noted that she has heard nothing but positive.

Mitzi is the Interim for FCS and 4-H, the full position will be advertised as the position that Dr. Stewart had held (Associate State Leader and Program Leader). A search committee will be formed soon. Any FCS programmatic issues should be directed to Mitzi, including meeting attendance.

Dr. Carolyn Dunn spoke of her role as Interim Department Head, leading faculty and professional staff in the department. She noted that the department would be very involved in the March Institutes. They are currently working on the name change of the department, which is to be Department of Youth, Family, and Community Sciences. Stakeholders, Faculty Senate, department chairs, foundations, and Provost had good response to the name. The Dean will present the name to the Dean's council and then it will go to the Board of Governors and should finish up by March if there is no negative feedback.

Dr. Dunn also spoke of the visioning sessions and said it is exciting that we get to help direct that. She was very positive in her expression of where we can go, and the commitment to the Land Grant mission. The Department has had very thoughtful discussions about their role in the future. Recently, the specialists' professional organization had a good discussion about the future. She explained that their role is to work through the mission.

There are 50 people on the visioning team. There are people from all levels on the committee; the team was put together carefully. Carolyn is excited that she has been added to the team.

Dr. Dara Bloom has been added to the faculty, she has a PhD from Penn State and her research has been in the area of Local Foods. 50% of her position is in Extension. The department was very active in seeking the Dean's Innovative Grants. There were over 250 applications for the grants. Dean Linton is very interested in collaborative work and cross college, department, and extension.

There was discussion among those present, and it was noted that Molly Alexi has also joined the visioning team. Debra noted that the importance of TWO Land Grant universities remains strong, and that extension is part of both. She noted that A&T Training is set to be February 11 & 12.

Carmen Long noted that counties have not yet received a travel budget. Molly said that Sherri Schwab has said that travel budgets will not be cut, but to work from the same budget last year. Sherrie Peeler voiced support for our representatives on the Visioning Committee. She also noted that working with Farm Bureau is a great partner and they have funding. There are Women's Farm Bureau groups as well. Christine Smith encouraged agents to look towards interdisciplinary/collaborative work as we construct our Plans of Work.

### **Making FCS "Rock Solid"**

President Molly Alexi led a 15-minute discussion about our concerns, comments, what we have heard in the counties. She stated that much of our programming is critical.

What programs are critical? Many noted that it is very hard to identify specific programs, as all counties are different. There is concern that families and individuals will suffer when the programs are not there. Margie Mansure identified that those who speak to the importance of

our program are older, are children, are parents required to be in the programs; disadvantaged, first generation college students, minorities are not confident to make their voices heard. Debbie Cox spoke of the need to highlight and broadcast the programs that we do that no one else does. She is also concerned about FCS vacancies being long-term, that there needs to be FCS presence in the counties.

Debra Womack spoke of the economic downturn and the need for our services, specifically financial management, including: home buying, and working with youth about finances. Sherrie Peeler spoke about her experience offering Home Buyer Education and parenting education. She spoke about new recruits in ECA: retired teachers, electricians, and professionals that can provide services needed.

Christine Smith noted that the retired FCS agents are interested in giving back, helping out and that they just need to be asked. Robin Seitz is concerned that this could lead to a double-edged sword as the county might view this as no need to fill a position. Shenille Ford per hour in her county mentioned that retirees are paid \$25. Margie Mansure mentioned that Sue Counts is running for the NC General Assembly.

Molly encouraged us to show how we make a difference, how we change lives, what we do, and to correct errors in thinking. Carolyn Dunn said, in reality, nothing is exclusively Extension. There was much discussion about how our approach may be different than a health department, social services, and councils on aging. We need to remain unbiased educators.

A delicious healthy lunch was served.

#### **2014 Program of Work Update:**

Molly reminded officers to get to know the district officers and encourage them. Most of the officers hold their position for two years. Sherrie Peeler led the Reporting.

#### **Yvonne Mullen, Awards and Recognition:**

The Award deadline has been extended due to weather, but should be in to Yvonne by now.

Applications received: 5 from NE, 2 from SE, and 4 from SC

Extension Awards that include scholarships are due in March. We can submit 2 DSA Awards.

#### **Kelly Beasley, Professional Development:**

The Professional Development Handbook to reflect currently available opportunities. Committee Report is on line. Copies of the leadership survey conducted online are available and were distributed.

Kelly would like to get the “Learning from Life” by the Center for Creative Leadership book for her committee.

#### **Robin Seitz, Member Resources:**

The Plan of Work is posted on the website. Molly Alexi suggested that this groups would be a good group to extend invitations to the retirees to participate and get involved.

Debbie Cox, Public Affairs:

The report will be posted this week. The Living Well campaign is the biggest part of this area. Debbie will also complete the Impact Report for North Carolina. She challenges everyone to write a letter to the editor as a point of advocacy. She will attending PILD.

Living Well Week is really the whole month of March.

Debbie Womack, North Central:

Officers were installed with 'sweet treat', Debbie reported on Galaxy. Program was improving our strengths through connections, provided by Debbie Cox.

Yvonne Mullen, Northeast

Met in Hertford County and installed officers. There were many retirees in attendance.

Sally McNeill, South Central

State Meeting wrap-up and survey monkey information was shared and discussed. Tracy Davis led the installation singing Gilligan's Island.

Meleah Collier, Southeast

Greg Hoover, DED discussed concerns related to the visioning. The local 4-H agent talked about a girl's empowerment program offered in Sampson County. NC Soybeans Laura Rogers helped agents prepare food items from soybean products. Officers were installed utilizing fitness equipment.

Margie Mansure, West

Meeting held at the Meadowbrook Lodge, site of the 2014 State meeting. Local apples were a snack item as well as a healthy lunch. The meeting was a work session for the State meeting.

Standing Committees:

By-Laws: Plan of Work is on the website and Sherrie Peeler has solicited input from others regarding By-Laws. She plans to attend JCEP.

Budget: Carmen Long distributed a report that will be posted on the website. There are 85 members. They had discussed raising funds. It was encouraged to invite agents and specialists to be members of the organization. Districts need to contribute the \$800 to the state organization.

Historian: Pictures, tapes, and information should be sent to your district Historian and then to the state historian.

The nominating report has been posted to the web.

Webmaster is looking for a replacement for this duty. Susan Condlin would like to train her replacement. Christine Smith has volunteer to be an apprentice.

## State Meeting

Blowing Rock, August 5-7, FCS Rock Solid

Sherri Schwab will be our kick-off speaker. Banquet will be on August 6.

### Federation Meeting:

Christine Smith reported on the attendance. She was impressed that the Healthy Options adherence at the meeting. Marshall Stewart discussed the Gifts of Leadership. Trudy Pickett is our Federation representative.

National Meeting: Galaxy meeting was held in Pittsburgh. "An Extension Agent is Prepared and Flexible".

### New Business:

Touch base with Tres Magner to make sure that your District is filling positions that need to be filled.

### Upcoming Dates to Note:

JCEP is February 11 in Memphis, TN.

NCAFCFS in Raleigh, February 21-23. Rachel Monteverdi reported that there are not enough people with background in FCS to fill teaching positions. There are less than 200 members in NCAFCFS.

PILD, April 6-9 in Alexandria, VA. Debbie Cox and Molly Alexi are the delegates.

There is much interest to be included in the Department of Public Instruction/CTE-FCS meeting that is usually held in July at the Koury Center.

NCEAFCS is August 5, 6, 7 in Blowing Rock.

NEAFCS Annual Session is September 15-18 in Lexington, Kentucky.

Sherrie Peeler moved to adjourn, Debbie Cox seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jayne McBurney  
Secretary

Reviewer  
Kelly Beasley