



PLN Conference Call Minutes October 21, 2008



Participants: Wanda Burke, Louisiana; Charles Cox, Oklahoma; Janet Fox, Louisiana; Susie Holder, Mississippi; Jeff Howard, Texas; Ivory Lyles, Arkansas; Thearon McKinney, North Carolina; Darlene Millard, Arkansas; Kellye Rempert, South Carolina; Bo Ryles, Georgia; Javiette Samuel, Tennessee; Claudette Smith, North Carolina; Marshall Stewart, North Carolina; Cathy Sutphin, Virginia; Mark Tassin, Louisiana; Dorothy Wilson, Oklahoma

Mark Tassin called the meeting to order at 8 a.m.

Kellye e-mailed out the minutes from Southern Region 4-H Program Leaders Meeting in North Carolina.

Charles shared the MOU for the transition for 4-H Club Congress. The group was asked to review the document and provide him with suggestions. The MOU includes the recommendations made by our group. The date targeted for making the transition would be July.

Claudette sent out the PLN Accomplishment Report. The report is on the Southern Region 4-H Program Leaders Network Wiki website. She wanted to thank people that provided feedback. Dorothy and Kellye asked the group for feedback on Restructuring the Program Leaders Committee. The feedback given thus far recommended more joint programming time where common themes and priorities could be discussed. The overall committee is looking for more information regarding PLN and what it will look like in the future. Dorothy will be giving a report back on December 2 and 3 in Atlanta.

A National 4-H and FFA Update was given by Marshall who sent out an e-mail earlier. The major objective was to identify major opportunities for collaboration between FFA and 4-H. Each organization shared the direction of their organization. The groups reacted and discussed where we might go from this point in time. The groups identified areas for collaborative work. Ryan Schmeising from National 4-H and Larry Case from National FFA will be providing feedback for the report to see if they are things we are working on. Charles brought up the issue of dual membership. Marshall shared that dual membership has not come up in the committee. Bo shared that each year the Georgia FFA Director and him meet to strengthen their relationship and discuss issues. We need to increase dialogue and opportunities to work together.

Marilyn sent out a report from the Urban Task Force in August. The report provided information regarding a change in demographics. The group challenged us to hire individuals that reflect the changes in population. The committee recommended a change and frequency in communication. The group suggested having two representatives from each group. Marilyn is our only representative. Cathy volunteered to serve on the Urban Taskforce.

Bo reported on PWG and shared that Dr. Kugler from USDA discussed the Farm Bill and its implications on our group. Mark shared his notes from Dr. Kugler's presentation at Galaxy Conference which indicated a movement forward (IRS Collaboration; National Competitive Events; Three Mission Mandates; Improved Curriculum Efforts; Emphasis on the Four Essential Elements; Improved Governance Among the Partners from National to Local and Marketing 4-H Programs to National and State Governing Bodies). Dorothy Freeman challenged the group to keep informed. There is nothing concrete but we will continue. The PWG will meet tomorrow. Glenn Appleby and Ryan Scheimsing will provide personnel updates from National 4-H Headquarters. Dr. Glenn will discuss the transition to National Institutes. Ryan will provide an update on 4-H Mission Mandates. Maria will update the group on 4-H Charters and Tax Exemption. To this point, the updates regarding Tax Exemption and 4-H Charters from Maria has been very good; however, it would be helpful the information/reports was sent in a format that could be forwarded as is onto county/parish. Bo asked the group if there were any issues that he needed to raise to the group. Susie asked Bo to bring forward the Shooting Sports Programs since Cathann's departure.

Dr. Lyles commented on the Logic Model Request from ASRED. Shared by the North Central Region, this concept promotes focused programming and documentation. A lesson identified by the North Central group was trying to put everything in 4-H. We need to select a focus area and look at multistate efforts. The deadline is April 2009 to have a proposed Logic Model so it can be reviewed, finalized and accepted during August 2009 PLN Meeting. We will move forward and work on SET/STEM for our Logic Model. Membership recommendations for the group are: Dr. Melissa Cater, Louisiana; Ed Maxa, North Carolina and Jeff will talk to Chris Bowman from Texas. Louisiana and Georgia have developed SET Logic Models that will be shared.

Jeff is representing our group on the Entrepreneurship Committee. The first conference call is October 30, 2008.

Jeff reported that all the Jury Approved CECP modules have been transferred to eXtension. He is in the process of checking formatting, etc. to make sure that all the modules successful made

the move to eXtension. Jeff is working on a promotional piece to market these modules which is on target for release on January.

Texas has gone through a restructuring process with Dr. Bonnie McGee being named as the Associate Director, 4-H Youth, and Human Sciences. Chris Boleman has joined Texas as the State 4-H Program Director. Dr. Boleman's background is program development.

CSREES will transition to National Institute for Food and Agriculture. Dr. Glenn Appleby has agreed to serve in as interim in Cathann Kress's position. Dr. Kyle Smith, Extension Director for County Programs with the Cooperative Extension Service, will be the representative from the South. Dr. Lyles discussed the transitions from line-item approach to a theme approach. ECOP has proposed that 4-H SET/STEM be moved to priority status. Our program emphasis of SET/STEM was put through and identified as a top three priorities through a survey put forth by the Strategic Opportunities Planning Committee. This recognition is very complimentary to the SET/STEM work that taking place to address relevant issues. This has implications to future funding. Each of the priority issue will be supported by the Program Committee. Dr. Lyles will have a conversation with Don Floyd to determine how National 4-H Council and National 4-H can work together to further SET/STEM programming.

The State Program Leaders Meeting is April 19-23 in Portland, Oregon. Claudette and Darlene are the representatives on the State Program Leaders Conference Planning Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 a.m.

Submitted by Janet Fox
Southern Region 4-H Program Leader Network Secretary