

Minutes
Southern Region Middle Managers
October 11, 2018
Via Zoom

Participants:

- Claude Bess
- Jennifer Cocanougher
- Dee Cooper
- Chris Cribbs
- Lonnie Johnson 1862 PLC Representative
- Gerald Jones 1890 PLC Representative
- Blake Lanford- Vice-Chair
- Mike Martin- Secretary
- Danny Peek
- David Perrin
- Sharon Reynolds- Chair
- Jeff Ripley
- Eric Simmone
- Anna Smith
- Jim Stewart
- Jeff Young

AEA Advisor: Carolyn Williams

ASRED Advisor: Rick Cartwright

1. Sharon Reynolds - Middle Managers Chair, welcomed committee and called the meeting to order.
2. Update from Administrative Advisors:
 - Dr. Carolyn Williams, Prairie View A & M: 1890's are addressing opioid issues through a "Lock your Meds" campaign. This will include collection and disposal of medications. She also discussed the plan to relocate the NIFA offices. Recommended that we go to the link to make comments. She will send a link to the group.
 - Dr. Cartwright, Arkansas, shared information from the recent NEDA conference in Portland, OR. Key topics included Extension visibility, money and resource development, and eXtension.
 - He said that directors are concerned about how to share the message of Extension and Land-Grants so that who we are and what we do is more widely recognized.
 - He stated that funding from Federal and State resources are decreasing nationally and additional sources need to be identified. There was some concern by the directors regarding the effectiveness of the groups that advocate for funding for Extension nationally. Tom Dobbins from Clemson is working on how to engage large external funders.
 - He shared that directors discussed eXtension. They have reinvented themselves and are hosting collaborative summits across the country.
 - The SR Directors are meeting in December via Zoom. Send topics to Rick.

3. Lonnie Johnson gave an update of the PLC group. Their first meeting since PLN will be next week. The group has set a schedule for conference calls and has a face-to-face meeting set for November 29-30 in Atlanta. They will be planning the 2019 conference, the newcomer orientation, and training for incoming chairs. Mitzi Dowling is the Chair and Leslie Henderson is the Vice-Chair.
4. Reviewed 2018-19 Plan of Work.
 - Plan 2019 Biennial Conference is the main item. It will be held in Sarasota, FL in April of 2019.
 - Quarterly Newsletter- Blake Lanford will give leadership to the newsletter.
 - The Best Management Practices for recruiting and hiring will be shared by Tom Obreza.
5. Eric Simonne gave an update on the 2019 biennial conference. It will be in Sarasota, FL April 22-25 at the Embassy Suites. Eric reviewed the schedule. Ignite sessions will be offered. Please let Eric or Vonda know if you have interest in doing an ignite presentation which would be 5 minutes for presentation and 5 minutes for questions. Early registration will be October 20- November 20. Late registration will be November 20- December 20. A block of rooms will be reserved for conference attendees. For transportation, Sarasota is a 3-hour drive from the Georgia-Florida line at I-75. If travelling by air, the Sarasota Airport (SQR) is about 3 miles from the hotel.
6. Blake Lanford gave an update on the newsletter. He will continue to use the SWAY format. Blake will be coming up with a schedule and will be sending a call for content to the listserv. The next edition will include information about the biennial conference.
7. Jim Stewart shared that the regional NUEL Conference will be in Chattanooga, TN. Jenny Cocanougher shared that the National conference will be in Seattle, WA May 20-23.

The next meeting will be February 14, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Martin, Secretary

