



Program and Staff Development Committee

Quarterly Meeting via Zoom

Minutes

January 13, 2021

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm Eastern time by Amy Harder.

Review of Agenda

Amy Harder reviewed the agenda.

Review of Minutes & Approval -

Scott Cummings moved to approve; Todd Hurt seconded. Minutes approved

Officer Reports

Chair – Working with Marina and Sarah on ways to make meetings valuable to members.

Vice Chair – Nothing to report

Secretary – Nothing to report

POW Updates

Collaboration with Communications Committee

Todd Hurt – no action to report.

Development of resource repository -

Scott Cummings – Making progress on repository. Team is close to being finished, going to pilot test in Texas. Scott will reach out to some members to help add to the repository for more pilot testing.

Update Inventory of SR procedures for reporting contacts –

Diane Mashburn says NIFA is hoping to use some of the data we collect to move forward. Discussion about changes at NIFA and corresponding/ future reporting changes.

Virtual Summer School –

Diane Mashburn - Taking ideas from NAEPSDP conference and from this group to create a plan for VSS.

Online delivery platforms & measurement –

Kimberly Williams – 10 of 14 states responded to survey. Primary platforms: Zoom, FB Live, Teams, Google Hangout. Results shared with list serve and uploaded to regional work group. Work group met in the fall but not a lot of contact since that meeting. Best practices guide and decision tree are being developed. Anticipated completion date is March.

Some discussion about decision tree – who is audience? Some universities and counties require certain platforms. Final format will recognize that not everyone has options.

Reports from PLC Representatives

Meredith Weinstein – At last meeting, there was discussion about virtual versus in person. Poll was sent and 12 of 13 states requested virtual. No confirmation yet. Potential theme for PLN around surviving / thriving / adversity. Some discussion around speakers as well as looking in to what to do if there are fees for cancelling hotel space.

Looking in to revising new comer orientation so they understand purpose. Not everyone understood it's not professional development.

Committee chair meeting and PLC chair meeting have been happening at the same time. Taking a closer look at that so accomplishments can be reached.

Considering fun run even if it's virtual. No pre-conference at this point. Next meeting is February 18.

Reports from Administrative Advisors

Vonda Richardson –

- AEA will hold join winter meeting with Council of 1890 Deans and association of research directors (ARD).
- AEA and ASRED have been holding webinars on coming together for racial understanding. Being led by Rachel Wellborn at SR SRDC.
- Continuing to plan 1890 system wide conference. Planning for in person right now.
- Look out for Extension Today monthly newsletter. Articles from each 1890 with a different theme each month. Vonda will send information to get on list serve.

Damona Doye

- Extension Directors and Administrators and 1994 Extension Leaders were invited to register for 2 virtual conversations on Racial Equity in Leadership.
 - January 8, 2021 -- "Inclusive and Equitable Organizations – An Evidence Based Model"
 - February 5, 2021-- Working Title: "Improving Inclusivity in Our Institutions and ECOP"
- Two new members of ECOP, representing the Southern Region, are:
 - Dr. Laura Perry Johnson, GA
 - Dr. Rich Bonanno, NC
- ECOP Chair Chris Watkins, along with ECOP and staff, is exploring possible ways to increase Extension funding for urban Extension.
- Extension's Health Innovation Taskforce is submitting a significant proposal to Centers for Disease Control to fund and Extension pilot on Vaccination Education.
- ASRED's spring and summer meetings for 2021 are being planned as virtual meetings. This includes PLN.
- Just before Christmas, Congress passed a funding bill for NIFA. Increases are seen across six of the nine APLU priority lines totaling \$22,199,000. Evans-Allen (1890 Research), 1890s Extension, AFRI, 1994 Research Grants, Payments to 1994 Institutions, and 1994 Extension all received increases. Cooperative Extension and Research formula funding was held at the same level as last year. The final bill also maintains EFNEP funding at the FY 2020 appropriation. (A \$1M reduction had been proposed for EFNEP). The bill also continues to carry the language allowing the Secretary of Agriculture to waive the matching funds requirement under the Specialty Crop Research Initiative.

The bill also includes \$10,000,000 for 1890 Institutions to support the Centers of Excellence and \$2,000,000 for a competitive grant to support the establishment of an Agriculture Business Innovation Center at a historically black college or university.

This bill also includes \$900B for COVID-19 Stimulus, including \$75 million for the Farming Opportunities Training and Outreach Program, \$28 million in support for Farm Stress Programs, and \$100 million for Specialty Crop Block Grants.

- Directors are interested in exploring the idea of a regional Extension leadership academy.
- Information on online M.S. degree programs that are of potential interest to Extension educators beyond Ag Ed and Ag Ext degrees would be appreciated.
- Sharing/education/training regarding best practices for hybrid meetings where there are live audiences both in-person and virtual would be appreciated.
- eXtension created the Connect Extension hub for professional development, collaboration, and learning to connect Cooperative Extension nationally. 4000 active Extension user accounts, lots of professional development opportunities around remote work, digital outreach, and technology. In 2020, 6500 Extension professionals participated in the Impact Collaborative program, including Innovation Facilitator Training, the Innovation Skill-Building Workshops, and the Impact Collaborative Summit plus on-demand events requested by members on critical topics such as Accessibility, Delivering Extension Programs Virtually, Trauma-Informed Practice, etc. Watch for opportunities for project/team elevation through wrap-around services supported by a NTAE grant.

Other Business

Announcements:

- Scott Cummings will be co-editor with Donna Peterson of JHSE.
- JOE transition is official. Website is being revamped and an editor has been hired. Prolonged delay in accepting manuscripts. Expected to be launching in the next two weeks (from Susan Guynn at Clemson)
- Oklahoma State will be hiring a new evaluation specialist

Roll Call

Karen Ballard, Sarah Baughman, Marina Denny, Kimberly Williams, Kristi Farner, Damona Doyle, Amy Harder, Tom Archibald, Todd Hurt, Virginia Brown, Scott Cummings, Meredith Weinstein, Julie Robinson, Diane Mashburn, Celeste Allgood, Cheryl Newberry, Vonda Richardson, Susan Guynn, Stacy McCullough

Adjourned at 1:47

Upcoming Meetings (1pm EST)

April 21, 2021

July 14, 2021