

CCE Council of Associations

Summer Conference Call

Thursday, July 26, 2007

Attended: B. Hadden, R. Stank, T. Cimochoowski, L. Dallis, D. Buck, L. Henley, B. Flansburg, J. Schultz, D. Briggs, D. Peterson, R. Rogers, P. Donnelly, A. Hunt
Executive Directors: Michele Ledoux, Andy Fagan, B. Schwerd
Extension Administration: T. Gifford, A. Turner, D. Haines

SWOT Analysis Continued – Better communications is still needed. Areas recognized: consistency of regional meetings around the state; getting a wider voice from volunteers; lack of communications among associations; better communications to know when regional and board meetings are taking place and being invited to attend.

Entertained the idea of a statewide conference with board members. Subcommittee to evaluate this idea further was identified. Bonnie Hadden, Linda Henley, Janet Schultz and Terry Gifford agreed to have further discussion. Conference call will be set for this committee prior to the September meeting and the group will bring back to full Council organized thoughts and ideas.

Connecting (or connections made) with state legislators and summer events – many of the Council on the call indicated contacts were being made with state legislators at their local county fairs; also at ground breaking for new office building. Governor's reps. are very interested in hearing for us. Encouraged the full Council to make contacts this summer if they hadn't already.

Updates:

Finance – Terry Gifford reported the final budget for 2006-07 was -\$410. For the fiscal year 2007-08 we will be very diligent in staying within budget. The spring meeting was within a few dollars of budget but if others had not submitted travel expenses this meeting could go over projected budget amount. Need to be strategic this year with funds.

The request for raising county contributions to the CoA was positively received. To date have only heard from one association asking to hold the additional assessment until after their board meets in September. A special thank you to Tom Cimchowski for the presentation he did in June to Executive Directors in preparing and asking them to support the increase.

US Farm Bill – it is working in the two houses of congress with conversation around commodity payment. Looking at energy, nutrition (obesity), grape and fruit as well as the capacity of funding for CCE is at this time still hold harmless.

Obesity – Twelve proposals have been submitted which cover most of the state; the director provided funding to help develop these proposals further and there will be a

summit August 17 to draft the major elements of the system wide proposal. There is a lot of excitement of what has come in.

Locally Produced Foods – A group of ten folks across the state have been identified to work together in developing a strategy for the extension system, areas of concentration will be to work closely with Government Affairs office, position us positively with the Governors office, engage faculty, document what's going on across the state in this area, and integrate this with obesity. Any further questions regarding this topic please address to Andy Turner who is one of the 10 asked to serve with this group.

Upcoming Meetings:

NYSAC fall meeting (September 19-21) - Need 2-3 people to attend (Andy Turner is confirmed); looking for participants who are close to Albany to help save on travel expenses. Deadline for registrations is September 7. Please let Tom or Terry know if you can attend on behalf of the Council.

Fall CoA meeting (September 28) – Members on the call agreed to a polycom format for the fall meeting versus coming to Ithaca for a face to face meeting in order to save on the Council's budget in anticipation of a longer budget year and having 4 meetings versus our traditional 3 meeting.

Polycom sites have been confirmed in Dutchess, Monroe, Franklin and Cornell. Meeting will start at 10:00 a.m. and will adjourn at 3:00 to give individuals time to community. Further details to follow.

PILD conference (April 28-30, 2008)

Meeting will take place at the Key Bridge Marriott, Arlington, Virginia. Need to anticipate \$2000 per person for cost of attending this event. We would like to send 4 delegates so please check your calendars to see if this is an opportunity you could participate in.