

**Council of Association Conference Call
December 14, 2006**

Attending: Debbie Buck, Lydia Dallis, Tom Della Rocco, Peter Donnelly, Bonnie Hadden, Linda Henley, Ann Hunt, Janet Schultz, Rhett Smith, Michael Stoll, Leila Zogby
Executive Directors: Shawn Bossard, Andy Fagan, Marjorie Keith, Bill Schwerd
Cornell: Charlie Fausold, Terry Gifford, George Hecht, Deena Haines

Monroe County Update: there was a last minute budget change to the Monroe County Executive budget. A reduction of \$175,000 was taken from CCE and reallocated to Monroe Community College to do agriculture and Agriculture Economic program.

NYSAC participation:

Those who have volunteered to participate in the January NYSAC Conference are Linda Henley, George Hecht, Bill Schwerd, Mike Stoll, Tom Della Rocco, and Tom Cimochoowski. (Any members from regions 3,4, 7, or 8 who would like to attend, please let Deena know ASAP.)

Obesity Initiative Update:

Helene, Glenn, and Charlie Kruzansky have been working on the potential of getting Obesity Initiative funding in the new Governor's budget. Until we know how that effort turns out, it's premature to launch a campaign with the legislature – so that effort is on hold.

Executive Directors met during the Executive Leadership Conference (December 6-7) to discuss how they would move forward if this initiative is funded. They were asked to break out into the 8 communication regions and plan for what this program would look like on the group in their respective areas.

During this meeting they had an opportunity to decide what groups of counties made sense for natural arrangements and to think about who should be at the table including regional and county nutrition, ag. and youth staff as they plan. All of the communications regions are planning to get together by the middle of January.

In the evaluation, one area of concern by the participants regarding the initiative was disappointment that we didn't have more details. Because of the current landscape there aren't any other details available at this point; in the meantime counties will need to figure out what kind of program they want to develop.

A steering committee has been appointed to coordinate the activities of this initiative; they include Terry Gifford, Kathy Scholl, George Preston, Glenn Applebee, Jo Swanson, and Charlie Fausold as the convener. First meeting of this group will take place next week.

Albany – not much new to report. The visits Helene Dillard and Glenn Applebee made a few weeks ago were very positive with considerable interest and note taking; felt they received a positive reception. Governor's elect budget is number one priority, if that does not work then we will go to a local campaign to get into the assembly or state budget. Around January 22 is when the Governor's budget is submitted. Hopefully we'll get some signals before then.

There is nothing to be done at this point at local level other than if you have a change to speak to assemblyman or senator and mention the upcoming initiative and as for their support if it should go through.

It appears full funding for County Law 224 is included in the SUNY budget. We don't need to do a major campaign, but would again ask for support for that part of the budget if you should run into local officials.

We currently don't need legislators to champion this effort, until we know about the governor's budget.

New state officials: Members were asked what new state officials had been elected from their respective regions. Those mentioned were:
Assembly: Janet Duprey, Senator: Andrea Stewart Cousins, Assembly: Gregg Ball (former 4-H member).

PILD Conference – attendees

Terry Gifford, Rod Howe and Diane Miller recently met to plan logistics. Until the leadership is determined we will know where we should target efforts to secure delegates. We will probably look for delegates from districts with members on the Agriculture Appropriations Committee in the House because most of funding for CCE will come through that committee. The Council was asked to pencil in the dates (April 23-25) on their calendar until we have a clear picture of who might be the most effective to attend.

January CoA Meeting, January 29, 2007 – Best Western, Western Ave., Albany

Agenda items:

Council business:

- NYSAC
- PILD
- Financial report
- Assess who terms are up in May and identify eligible for placements
- Nominating committee
- Obesity strategy and work to be done.

May need to let go of the business items and make visits if necessary.

Any other agenda items to be addressed should be forwarded to Peter Donnelly, Terry Gifford or Deena Haines.

Future Dates for the Council:

January 9, 9:00 a.m. – Leadership Team Conference Call

January 29 CoA mtg., Best Western, Western Ave., Albany 12:00 noon - 7:00 p.m.
February 9, 9:00 a.m. – Leadership Team Conference Call
February 15, **9:00 a.m. (Note Time Change)** Full Council Conference Call