

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION ADVISORY COUNCIL



AGENDA

Regular Session

Monday

April 3, 2013

Cooperative Extension Office

1418 Armory Drive

Charlotte, NC 28204.

- I. START SESSION (12:00 Noon)**
Call to Order (Chair Rook)
- II. INTRODUCTION(s) (12:05 pm)**
 - A. Council Members, Staff and Guests
- III. PROGRAM (12:05 pm)**
 - A. Scott Ewers - Horticulture
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS BY CONSENT**
 - A. February 13, 2013 meeting minutes (12:15 pm)
- V. REPORTS (for information only)**
 - A. Cooperative Extension Administrative Update (Furr) (12:20 pm)
 - a. County Extension Director
 - b. 4-H EFNEP
 - c. Kitchen
 - d. Budget
 - B. Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation Update (Garges)
 - C. Program Reports
 1. 4-H Youth Development
 - a. 4-H update (12:30 pm)
 2. Horticulture
 - a. Horticulture update (12:40 pm)
 3. Family & Consumer Science
 - a. EFNEP update (12:50 pm)
 - b. Local Foods update (1:00 pm)
- VI. ITEMS TO CONSIDER FOR ACTION**
 - A. CE Awareness Day (1:10 pm)
 - a. October 13; 10am – 2pm
 - B. Other items from the floor
- VII. UPCOMING EVENTS OF IMPORTANCE**
 - A. 2013 Cooperative Extension Advisory Council Meeting Schedule
 - a. 6/5 8/7 10/2 12/4
- VIII. ADJOURN (1:30 pm)**

Cooperative Extension Advisory Council: Mecklenburg County

February 13, 2013

Members Present: Charlie McCree, Sandy Rook, Joyce Trott, Iris Chandler, Carrie Winter

Staff Present: Robbie Furr, Sharon Pearson, Scott Ewers, Catherine Crocker, Kristin Davis, Cynthia McQueen, Racquel McNeil

Sandy called the meeting to order at 12:15pm. Members present introduced themselves.

Catherine Crocker, 4-H Program Assistant, provided a short 4-H health and fitness activity.

Minutes of the October 8, 2012 meeting were approved.

REPORTS:

County Extension Director Robert Furr provided an Extension Administration update.

1. Kitchen Update: Final electrical work has been completed. Power is now available to all receptacles in the kitchen. There is still a \$40,000 need to cover expenses for the hood, new water fountain, and remaining equipment (ovens and dish washer).
2. We are expecting a flat funding from Mecklenburg County for the upcoming fiscal year. Robbie will submit our budget realignment in March. No news from Raleigh regarding the state fiscal budget at this point.
3. The South Central District Advisory Council conference was held at the Union CE facility on Friday, January 25. Carrie Winter and Sandy Rook attended as Mecklenburg advisory representatives along with Robbie Furr, Catherine Crocker and Cynthia McQueen. Due to in climate weather, the meeting was cut short.

Racquel and Catherine provided 4-H program report.

1. 4-H staff have been meeting with recreation center staff to help build their 4-H programs.
2. Racquel is piloting Juntos at Ivory Baker and Methodist Home.
3. Summer day camp and residential camp registrations are now posted on the website.
4. Upcoming curriculum training dates scheduled (Keeping Fit, Exploring Treasures, Acres of Adventure and Food, Reading and Culture).

Scott Ewers shared horticulture program highlights

1. 2013 EMG training classes at mid point.
2. Lunch and Learn sessions scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays for February, March, April and May.
3. 2013 Greater Charlotte Landscape Seminar and Trade show was held Feb 12 at Union CE. 475 commercial landscapers attended.

Sharon Pearson and Cynthia McQueen provided an update on EFNEP.

1. Youth EFNEP currently working in Hidden Valley, Statesville Rd, and Crossroads Charter. New groups starting at Ransom Middle and Huntingtowne Farms.
2. Five adult groups have graduated since October. Three current groups at St. Johns Head Start, Albemarle Cheerleader Parents and International House.
3. Donation was received from The Home Depot for 25 spray bottles to be used for sanitizing solution.

Kristin Davis provided an FCS update.

1. Innovative Food Defense Training held February 5.
2. Food and Nutrition workshops held through Work First partnership through June 2013.
3. ESMMWL – North Meck Senior Center – 35 participants.
4. Good Farmers Market Practices online training – using NCSU Moodle to offer this training to vendors.
5. Sustainable Living Series – workshops on backyard chickens, beginner gardening, composting and canning.

Items to Consider:

Robbie reviewed the 2013 State Programming Objectives that the Mecklenburg Staff will be working under.

NC Cooperative Extension has revamped the Environmental Scan process. Each year, ¼ of the counties will conduct the scan with identified stakeholder groups. Mecklenburg is in the first round of counties. Questions have gone out to our groups. Once responses are received, results will be tabulated and then a second round will be conducted to prioritize the responses.

The 2012 CE Awareness Day was reviewed and discussed. Staff suggested moving the time from 10-2 to noon-4. The suggestion to have a central theme around a topic will be helpful in promoting. The theme of Health & Fitness was selected for 2013. All program areas will use this theme to highlight what they offer. It was suggested to also have a health walk in the park in conjunction with the event. Robbie will work with the Elizabeth Neighborhood Association to make sure the 2013 date is also the same as their garden tour. It was a great help to have both on the same weekend in 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24pm.

April 3, 2013



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- Cooperative Extension Administrative Update (Furr) (12:20 pm)
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 - 4-H EFNEP
 - Kitchen
 - Budget
- Park and Recreation Update (Garges)

Program Reports

4-H Youth Development (12:30)

Horticulture (12:40)

Family & Consumer Science

- EFNEP update (12:50)
- Local Foods update (1:10)

VI. ITEMS TO CONSIDER FOR ACTION

- 2013 CE Awareness Day
 - October 13th 10am – 2 pm
- Other items from the floor

VII. UPCOMING EVENTS OF IMPORTANCE

- 2013 Cooperative Extension Advisory Council Meeting Schedule:
 - 6/5, 8/7, 10/2, 12/4

VIII. ADJOURN (1:30 pm)

Approval of agenda items by consent

Previous Meeting Minutes

Reports

Administrative

4-H

Horticulture

EFNEP

Local Foods

Administrative Updates

- County Extension Director Position
- 4-H EFNEP Position
- Kitchen
- Budget (county / state)
- Park and Recreation Update (Garges)
- NC Cooperative Extension Update (McRae)

Mecklenburg County 4-H

4-H Program Updates

General Update for 4-H Department:

- Ongoing Meetings/Collaborations: 4-H Support w/Partners, Rec Centers, etc.

Upcoming Training Dates: Food, Culture, & Reading to be held April 16th, 2013

- Homeschool 4-H Club (Live It, Love It, Learn It) had their first meeting in March
- Working with Lake Norman Christian School on Development of 4-H Elective Course
- Linda/Partnerships & Collaboration w/Community Development Organization(s)
- Palisades Country Club 4-H Night/Tree Planting - Date TBA
- Summer Camp(s), Congress Registration Open
- 4-H Charlotte Checkers Night/Fundraiser to be held on Friday, April 12th at TWC, 7pm WWW.GOCHECKERS.COM/4H
promo code: 4H
- Youth & Families Institute ⇒ new ideas
- Natural Learning Initiative: Growing in Place Symposium ⇒ new ideas
- Seeking to form 4-H group at Char Meck Library: Beatties Ford Rd. Branch (Sharon)

Racquel: (Juntos)

- Ivory/Baker & Methodist Home Rec Centers
- Money Games Began
- Grassroots Leadership Conference

Catherine: (Youth Gardening)

- Rec Centers (4-H Gardening Curriculum + Gardens)/Grants & Information
- Berewick Rec Center/School - New garden thanks to Friendship Gardens
- School Garden Network Meeting/Committee (Mecklenburg County Health Dep't, MCFVC)
- Shared 4-H Curriculum & Youth Gardening Networking Opportunities
- Can You Dig It? Charlotte Community Garden Tour on Saturday, May 4th from 9am-1pm

Horticulture

- ❑ The 2013 EMG class of trainees completed their initial Master Gardener training in March. We now have 23 EMG Interns added to the roster, plus an additional two transfer EMGs for other counties.
- ❑ P&R community garden plot renewals are taking place. Most gardens are running a waiting list. Winget CG has made a big turn around this years with more local residents looking to adopt plots. Mint Hill CG will open mid-April, and as of today all 20 first phase plots have been assigned (a waiting list has been started).
- ❑ Private pesticide applicator training is being planned for May/June. The training will be open to the greater Charlotte area.



Family & Consumer Science

NC 10% Campaign Update- Mecklenburg County

The 10% Campaign is a statewide collaborative initiative led by the Center for Sustainable Farming Systems (CEFS) and North Carolina Cooperative Extension promoting locally grown food, farmers and the businesses and people who grow, prepare, distribute and sell food in North Carolina.

Goal: Encourage individual and business consumers to commit 10% of their existing food dollars on locally produced foods.

Total Days	Total Consumers	Total Consumer Spending	Total Business Partners	Total Business Spending
STATEWIDE				
985	6151	\$1,838,168	750	\$33,150,785
MECKLENBURG				
985	430	\$138,458	30	\$48,739

Program Updates

WORK FIRST PARTNERSHIP Mecklenburg Family and Consumer Sciences has partnered with the Mecklenburg Department of Social Services to provide local food and nutrition education workshops through June of this year. To date, 25 participants have participated in 2 trainings. Program participants and facilitators learn about the importance of sourcing local food, how to create healthy and budget-friendly meals and simple cooking techniques for their families. The workshop culminates with a simple cooking demonstration.

Family & Consumer Science (cont.)

- **EAT SMART, MOVE MORE WEIGH LESS ESMMWL** classes are underway at North Mecklenburg Senior Center in Huntersville. The class consists of 35 participants, which is the largest ESMMWL class to date. The class will end on April 11th with a celebration and awards for most weight loss. The Mecklenburg FCS Community Health Advisors have assisted greatly with facilitation and instruction for this class. Participation has been consistent throughout the program.
- **SHAMROCK SENIOR CENTER PARTNERSHIP** Mecklenburg County FCS provided specialty workshops during National Nutrition Month on “Understanding MyPlate” and “Smart Shopping for Healthy Meal Plans”, with senior participants. A total of 42 senior participants received information and resources.
- **BETTER FOOD, BETTER HEALTH LATINO OUTREACH** The Mecklenburg FCS program received funding for another year of programming for Latino families. The BFBH program provides nutrition education for Latino parents and children. The FCS program is currently vetting co-facilitators for the program and conversing with other potential program partners.

New Projects

- **GOOD FARMERS MARKET PRACTICES ONLINE** The final stages of the GFMP Virtual training is underway. The program is slated for launch on April 15th. Market managers and vendors will be able to complete the NCSU Extension’s Good Farmers Market Practices training online via Moodle format. The format will be reviewed by prominent market managers as a potential requirement for vendors prior to application submission. This is the first training of its kind offered in this format for the Charlotte region farmers markets.
- **SUSTAINABLE LIVING SERIES** The Mecklenburg FCS Sustainable Living Series is underway. To date, one workshop have taken place including “Beginner Gardening for the Not-So-Green Thumb”. Upcoming workshops include Beginner Composting with Wipe Out Waste (April 18th), Beekeeping 101 (May 22) and Raising and Selecting Backyard Chickens (June 25th). The series will culminate with a number of canning classes during the summer institute. The purpose of the Sustainable Living Series is to help families learn ways to integrate sustainable practices into their lifestyle. The Sustainable Living Series will introduce to some and reintroduce to others traditional practices that have sustained American families for generations.

Adult EFNEP

ESL/nutrition class,EFNEP Graduates





2013 CE AWARENESS DAY

Events of importance

- Office Closed – May 27th
- 2013 Cooperative Extension Advisory Council Meeting Schedule
 - **4/3 6/5 8/7 10/2 12/4**



Adjourn

Thank you for attending!