

# COOPERATIVE EXTENSION ADVISORY COUNCIL



## AGENDA

### **Regular Session**

Wednesday  
June 5, 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. Racquel McNeil – 4H Youth and Development
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS BY CONSENT**
  - A. April 3, 2013 meeting minutes (12:15 pm)
- V. REPORTS (for information only)**
  - A. Cooperative Extension Administrative Update (Davis) (12:20 pm)
    - a. County Extension Director Position
    - b. 4-H EFNEP Position
    - c. Budget Update
    - d. PRK Commission Meeting
    - e. Kitchen Update
  - B. 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; 10 am – 2pm
  - B. Other items from the floor
- VII. UPCOMING EVENTS OF IMPORTANCE**
  - A. 2013 Cooperative Extension Advisory Council Meeting Schedule
    - a. 8/7 10/2 12/4
- VIII. ADJOURN (1:30 pm)**

**Cooperative Extension Advisory Council: Mecklenburg County**

April 3, 2013

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

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

**Guests Present:** Clinton McCray, Jim Garges

Sandy called the meeting to order at 12:20 pm. Members present introduced themselves.

Scott Ewers, Horticulture Agent, provided a short educational presentation on disease and pest management.

Minutes of the February 13, 2013 meeting were approved.

#### **REPORTS:**

County Extension Director Robert Furr provided an Extension Administration update.

1. **County Extension Director:** Robbie Furr has accepted a position as County Extension Director in Cabarrus County. An Interim County Extension Director will be selected soon. Clinton McCray, Regional Director, shared the process of selecting an Interim Director with the group. He also shared the hiring process for a new Director and emphasized the inclusion of the staff and advisory council in the hiring process. Advisory council members were informed that they will receive notification of the new Interim Director via email. Council members shared their appreciation for Robbie's service to Mecklenburg Cooperative Extension.
2. **4H EFNEP:** Sharon Pearson, 4H Program Assistant, has resigned from her position and accepted a position with the Public Library of Charlotte-Mecklenburg. The position will remain vacant through the remainder of the fiscal year.
3. **Kitchen:** 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) and safety upfit.
4. **Budget:** We are expecting a flat funding from Mecklenburg County for the upcoming fiscal year. Budget realignments have been submitted for Mecklenburg Extension. Jim Garges shared additional details of the budget and confirmed that we remain at a recommendation of flat funding. Mr. Garges shared that BOCC will hold a public budget hearing on May 30<sup>th</sup> for citizens to voice support or concerns regarding the budget.

Racquel and Catherine provided 4-H program report.

1. Robbie shared information about the Ages and Stages Online training available to afterschool professionals.
2. 4-H staff continue to meet with recreation center staff to help build their 4-H programs.
3. Racquel is piloting Juntos is underway at Ivory Baker and Methodist Home. Money Games began at area recreation centers.

4. Deadlines for summer day camp and residential camp registrations are May 15<sup>th</sup>. Scholarships remain for limited camp slots.
5. Catherine is serving as a part of the School Gardening Network/Committee, as project led by the Mecklenburg County Health Department.
6. Upcoming curriculum training dates scheduled (Food, Reading and Culture).

Scott Ewers shared horticulture program highlights

1. 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.
2. Park and Recreation community garden renewals are underway. Most community gardens have waiting list for interest consumers. Mint Hill Community Garden is scheduled to open in mid-April and most plots have been assigned.
3. Private pesticide applicator training will be held in May/June.
4. Sandy Roork shared information about the 500 Gardens project led by the Mecklenburg EMGs.

Cynthia McQueen provided an update on EFNEP.

1. Three current groups at St. Johns Head Start, Albemarle Cheerleader Parents and International House are currently underway.
2. The Food Lion grant project is approaching the end. This grant will not be renewed and was a one- time partnership with EFNEP.

Kristin Davis provided an FCS update.

1. Food and Nutrition workshops held through Work First partnership through June 2013.
2. ESMMWL – North Meck Senior Center – graduation will be held on April 11<sup>th</sup>
3. Programs were held in celebration of National Nutrition Month at Shamrock Senior Center.
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.
6. Better Food Better Health Latino Outreach program returning to Mecklenburg for a second year.

Items to Consider:

Robbie is waiting to receive the Panthers schedule to compare with proposed dates of CE Awareness Day. A walk is scheduled on 10/13 in Independence Park.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.