

Kansas State Extension Advisory Council February 19, 2007

The Kansas State Extension Advisory Council met on Monday, February 19th, 2007 at the Kansas Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. 600 SW Corporate View, Topeka, Kansas.

Call to order

The Kansas State Extension Advisory Council meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m. by Chair John Ericson. Members were welcomed and asked to introduce themselves and tell of a positive association with extension. Daryl Buchholz, Associate Director for Extension and Applied Research welcomed everyone and introduced Loren Medley, of KEPCo. Loren welcomed the Board and gave a brief history about the company.

Members Present:

John Ericson, Phil Sandelin, Jo Ann Murray, Kevin Journagan, Brad Fuller, Judy Parsons, Jason King, Andy Sramek, Donita Sparks, Dwight McReynolds, John Kramer, Penny Donaldson, Rod George, Larry Turner, Michele Janson, Stan Larson, Jerry Dreher, Julia Strnad, Bob Gottlob.

KSU Administrators:

Fred Cholick, Daryl Buchholz, J. Pat Murphy, Patricia McNally, Paula Peters, Jim Lindquist, Paul Hartman, Chris Onstad, Dale Fjell, J. D. McNutt, Steven Graham and Sue Peterson.

Review Agenda & Approval of Fall 2006 Minutes: Review of Financial Status

The Agenda was reviewed. Phil Sandelin moved, Dwight McReynolds seconded to accept Fall, 2006 minutes, motion passed. The Financial Status Report was reviewed. Judy Parsons moved, Kevin Journagan seconded to accept Financial Report. Motion passed

Advisory Council Role and Responsibility

Daryl stated that the role of the Advisory Council is to think critically of how to strengthen the future for K-State Research and Extension. We should reach out to community leadership and ask them for perceptions and ideas. Is KSRE valuable to the community? Is it missing critical opportunities? Is it involved in the vital needs of the community? Is it important to the future of Kansas communities? Daryl asked that we give our feedback, ask tough, critical questions, point out problems, opportunities, and greatest assets of KSRE. This advisory council needs to help the system to be better tomorrow than we are today!

Partnership Meetings Review and Discussion

Fred Cholick, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Director of K-State Research and Extension and Daryl Buchholz, Associate Director for Extension and Applied Research shared that the local agents were receptive to the Areas of Program Focus for Comprehensive Programming. Agents took ownership in developing professionally and were interested in developing a curriculum for that purpose. A statement was "this isn't the end, it's the beginning." Most had a broad focus that leads to public value of the extension program. A very positive meeting. Most agents wanted to know, how do we become a better agent and how do we facilitate? Paula stated that some had a hard time realizing that they had control over their area. Agents asked, what is it we need to know, that we may not know, and how can we make this happen? Some agents asked "is this going to take more time?" Ten percent needs to be spent in professional development.

Program Updates and Initiatives

Paula Peters, Assistant Director, FCS - Stated that obesity is the number one health issue and shared information obesity prevention programs, percentage of overweight children and teens. Basic foods and nutrition, strong women, and Walk Kansas were a few programs that were discussed. There was a lengthy discussion on school lunch programs.

Pat Murphy, Interim Assistant Director, ANR - Shared information on grain prices, increase demand for corn, Source identification for beef products, rebuilding swine operations, declining aquifer levels, energy costs and opportunities, and community development.

Pat McNally, Assistant Director, 4-H Youth Development - Shared information on the 4-H program and reviewed the "Policies of the National 4-H K - 3 Program," Kansas 4-H Tip Sheet, available at <<http://www.kansas4-h.org/Tipsheet/TipsheetToGo.htm>>, and Kansas Military Partnerships Serving Youth on Military Installations. Partnerships include: Fort Leavenworth and Leavenworth County Extension, Fort Riley and Geary County Extension, McConnell Air Force Base and Sedgwick County Extension.

Guidance on Policy Issues

Jim Lindquist shared a Draft 2/16/2007 on Policy Discussion Regarding Agent Staffing and Agent Reduction in Force. Jim asked for discussion on several comments in the Draft and should this policy be modified? Current policy establishes local unit program balance guidelines in a ratio of 30:30:30:10 for ANR, FCS, 4-H and CED, respectively.

Discussion: An agent in a single unit should have qualifications and primary programming responsibility in ANR or FCS and the ability to meet comprehensive programming requirements. In two agent units, the primary positions will be ANR and FCS with shared responsibilities for 4-H and CED. In three agent units, the positions will be ANR, FCS, and 4-H. The ANR and FCS agents will share responsibilities for CED. For a unit of four or more agents, positions beyond ANR, FCS, and 4-H should be based on local programming needs and the ability of the local unit to meet comprehensive programming requirements.

Discussion on Reduction in Force: In the event that budget availability requires a reduction in force of agent positions, agents should be invited to apply for the remaining positions in the unit. Agent staffing decisions will be based on the qualifications of agents, their technical skills in the targeted programming area, and their ability to meet the comprehensive programming requirements of the local unit. All decisions are to be determined jointly by the local Extension Board and the Director of Extension's representative.

General consensus from the group was to make the policy more general, emphasizing the need to create a plan for providing a comprehensive program for the clientele within the local Extension unit, and not to be as prescriptive in defining the breakdown of idealized programming, ie 30-30-30-10. With further feedback, you can e-mail Jim Lindquist at <jlindqui@oznet.ksu.edu>.

Overview of K-State Research and Extension Marketing Initiative

Trudy Rice, Douglas County, Laurie Chandler, Shawnee County, and Linda Sleichter, K-State Marketing Specialist shared 5 year Plan and Marketing Initiatives. Marketing Plan will be available on the Website in May.

SEAC Closed Discussion

SEAC requested an opportunity to have a closed discussion without K-State Research and Extension administration in the room. That request was granted, and the group had a 45 minute discussion on issues of potential change with 4-H membership and age appropriate activities. With inviting of administration back into the meeting, John Ericson thanked the Administration for allowing the closed discussion and directed a series of questions to Fred.

(1) What is the actual mandated age of official full membership of 4-H, Policy and Guidelines and where is it written?

Answer: No age policy and guidelines. Full membership is age 9.

(2) How much flexibility is the committee going to have?

Answer: Ad Hoc Committee will look into compliance, must follow established policies and standards.

(3) Is it in writing that Kansas is out of compliance, if so where and by whom?

Answer: Have not asked to have in writing, Age 8 allows for transition (third grade.)

(4) What effect will it have on the State 4-H Program?

Answer: We do a good job, and by engaging youth at a younger age should have a positive effect on overall 4-H involvement..

(5) Is it possible to have two SEAC members on each of the Ad Hoc Committee's?

Answer: The ad hoc membership committee will be have a small number of members. At this point, we don't know numbers. The group needs to be less than 30. It may be difficult to assure SEAC a seat on the ad hoc committee. Expectation is for a large group of applicants. A selection committee will make recommendations for the committees, with Fred and Daryl reviewing and finalizing that selection process.

Fred remarked that it is good to have a passion about our youth program.

John thanked the Administration and stated the board will work hand in hand with the Administration.

Daryl stated that he appreciated the set of questions and organizing them.

Paul Hartman, SW Area Administrator agreed to host the Fall SEAC meeting in Garden City in conjunction with the Centennial Field Day Recognition Event for the Southwest Research and Extension Center on Thursday and Friday, August 30-31, 2007.

Adjournment

Judy Parsons moved, Dwight McReynolds seconded to adjourn meeting, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Ann Murray, Secretary

