

Date: July 21, 2005

Time: 5:25 p.m.

Place: MSU Extension Bay County, Third Floor, Large Conference Room

Members Present:

Philip Engelhardt

Jeff Histed

Ray VanDreissche

Joyce Gavord

Robert Kernstock

Chris Wazny

Kari Gulvas

Douglas Rise

George Heron

Elaine Sobieray

Others Present:

Ann Arnold, FCS Extension Educator

John Burk, ANR Extension Educator

Judy Delestowicz, Administrative Assistant

Jan Rise, Master Gardener Volunteer Program Coordinator

Jodi Schulz, 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator

Margaret LaShore, Acting County Extension Director

INFORMATION PRESENTED AND DISCUSSION HIGHLIGHTS

Doug Rise, chair, opened the meeting at 5:25 p.m. Through roundtable introductions, Margaret LaShore, East Central Regional FNP coordinator, informed Council that she is interim CED (county Extension director) while Howie Wetters is on leave till mid-July. Under old business, Margaret LaShore introduced an exercise to help Council prioritize and set new program priorities for MSU Extension Bay County on topics which had been identified at the last Council meeting. The outcomes were:

Community and Economic Development:

1. Marketing MSU Extension Bay County
2. Pursue Grant Funding At The Local Level For Marketing Expansion

Youth Development:

1. Community Youth Expo
2. Increase Community Service Outreach To Market 4-H

Agriculture and Natural Resources:

1. Community Outreach To Educate Community On Agriculture Issues
2. Agriculture Youth Leadership Advisory Program (collaborating with Youth Development)

For Family Consumer Sciences, Council had identified that this program area was already at capacity and did not see the need at this time to add new or expand existing programs. Ms. LaShore stated this information will be passed on to Howie Wetters,

and that staff will then be reporting back to Council in the future on how these new priorities may be reached.

Some discussion centered on expanding outreach through local youth organizations by having representatives attend the meetings to build collaboration for 4-H. Jodi Schulz noted there are only a few 4-H clubs that focus on community service work and they may be interested in joining other organizations. However, most local community service youth groups in this county target older youth (high school aged) and the bulk of 4-H youth are younger (elementary and middle school aged). Doug Rise reminded those present that this is the type of dialog which should continue as staff develops how these initiatives will fit into their program areas.

Staff gave an update on program area activities since the May meeting.

Doug Rise stated that he hadn't received any feedback from the group on bylaws changes. He and Ray VanDreissche could present some proposed language for discussion at the next meeting.

Under new business, a sign up sheet was circulated to receive MSU and MSUE newsletters directly from the director's office. This would help Council keep up with MSU and MSUE events happening statewide.

Due to the fact that the Bay County Fair falls in the month of August, Council has traditionally participated in fair activities in lieu of a formal business meeting. Doug Rise, encouraged Council members to attend and even volunteer in some fair events. An invitation and explanation of those 4-H events, like the chicken barbeque 4-H fund raiser on Sunday, August 7, and the livestock auction and bidders dinner on Thursday, August 11, was provided by Jodi Schulz. A packet will be sent out via the mail to Council members soon. Margaret LaShore made a point of clarification as to the recent confusion on Council meeting dates identified by Council at the May meeting, more exactly which day of the week Council will meet on. Doug Rise said that the bylaws did not identify an actual day to meet on, only which months they would meet on to support the six meetings per year rule stated in the bylaws. Wednesday was identified as the best day to meet. September 21 and November 16 were identified as the last two meetings in 2005, meeting at 5:15 p.m. Also, cookies should also be provided at all Council meetings. These may be areas to address in the bylaws.

Margaret LaShore updated the group on the proposed 2006 MSU Extension Bay County operating budget being developed for submittal to the county executive and Board of Commissioners. This operating budget supports a percentage of wages for MSU Extension educator positions. Consideration was given by Council on the future status of the ANR Extension educator position, which was cut 25 percent in the 2005 MSU Extension departmental budget.2005. Council approved making a statement of support to request county administration put the ANR Extension educator position back to 100 percent for the 2006 Bay County budget year.

Ray VanDreissche gave an update to the proposed sugar bill now in front of Congress. Doug Rise stated that there is a new housing bill pending, too. Updates on program activities from Extension educators and the Master Gardener Volunteer Program coordinator were received.

ACTION TAKEN

- It was moved, supported, and carried to approve the May 18, 2005, meeting minutes.
- It was moved, supported, and carried to support a statement to county administration to request the ANR Extension Educator position back to 100 percent in the 2006 county budget.
- It was moved, supported, and carried to adjourn at 6:25 p.m.

WHAT'S NEXT AND FOLLOW UP

1. Bylaws review committee report (Executive Board)
2. Finalize local program goals setting, implementation development discussion

Next meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, September 21, 2005**, at 5:15 p.m., at MSU Extension Bay County, 3rd Floor, Bay County Building, 515 Center Avenue, Bay City, Michigan.

Prepared by J. Delestowicz