

Human Ecology Issue Committee

Wednesday, January 12, 2022 via Zoom • 6:00-7:45 p.m.

CCE Delaware County, 34570 St Hwy 10, Suite 2, Hamden, NY 13782

Meeting called to order at 6:10 pm by Chairperson Donna Noonan-Dickson with the following present: Jeanne Darling, Valerie Dudley, Paula Brown, Paul DeAndrea, Donna Dickson-Noonan, Joan Hale, Julia Wheeler, Carol Ann Michalski. Missing were Karen Ogborn and Julia Wheeler.

September 2021 Minutes were approved with no additions or corrections.

Board and Committee positions – were nominated and voted on by roll call vote. Everyone kept their positions and Karen was nominated to continue being secretary in her absence, which she approved via email after the meeting.

Voting by roll call, each member of the nominating committee voted yes for the following slate of officers:

Board/HE Committee Chair: Donna Dickson-Noonan

Board/Finance Committee: Carol Ann Michalski

CCE Long Range Committee: Paula Brown

HE Vice Chair: Paul DeAndrea

HE Secretary: Karen Ogborn

Officers and and slate of representatives from the Human Ecology Issue Committee were approved unanimously by the committee members present.

Board of Directors and Annual Meeting – Members who were present felt it was a great 4-H keynote presentation, annual meeting with excellent food.

Excite Phase 1 – Survey work is wrapping up and we are now in the process of summarizing survey data, key informant interviews and focus groups to share with Cornell. The grant targets different groups ages 21-55 years old. The Excite team reached out to schools, churches, fire departments, county government, Department of Social Services. We will finish the grant by submitted recommendations along with the summaries.

Excite Phase 2 – The second part of the Excite grant focuses on education. We are working with New York City, Suffolk County and Cornell. NYC already has 30,000 people vaccinated at clinics through the Excite effort. Jeanne and the team are promoting vaccine clinics in our area. The project is national, and we will be able to review data and education efforts that are being done nationwide. Cornell Professor Neil Lewis is tracking research about vaccine hesitancy and finding that people distrust the CDC and

Public Health because they reflect policy work. Relationship building with people is more effective in building trust. There is a possibility of collaborating with New York State Center for Ag Medicine and Health to develop health education for farmers and to partner with BOCES health students to develop a vaccine education strategies and information to the public.

Alliance / Building Community Resilience Series – 76 people attended the first workshop held in January 2022. There are five monthly workshops addressing resiliency from January through May. This is part of an Innovation Grant with Orange County that focuses on organizational and community resilience. There is a focus group being formed with staff on how to build resilience in programming. Jeanne is working with Cornell students who are doing a literature search and helping develop focus group questions. Workshops are open to everyone, including HE Committee members. There will be 2 focus groups in Delaware County, 2 in Orange County and 2 in Monroe County.

Alliance / Policy Council – The December meeting took place at the new Delaware County Behavioral Health Center in Walton, NY. We are connecting with Stamford Central School and adding them to the Sources of Strength program sites. We received a legislative appropriation request before Christmas where we could ask for \$21,861 to spend by March 31, 2022, and our request was approved. We will be purchasing needed office equipment as well as partnering with Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council (ADAC) and the Mental Health Clinic to foster social and emotional health among youth. Suggestions for funding are welcome. We were able to give extra grant money to O’Connor Hospital for age-friendly projects in 2021.

EFNEP/SNAP – Jeanne submitted the final report for EFNEP. We were the number one county for graduates in the state; Amy was the educator with the highest enrollment, and Cheryl had high enrollment as well. We will be connecting with CROP after-school nutrition education with families in Delaware and Otsego Counties again in 2022. This is a BOCES program that helped us enroll participants in the EFNEP program. The CROP grant ends in June 2022 and BOCES is now planning for another 4-year grant. Maegan works in the CROP program as well. We will have 11 total schools if we get the new grant, up from 10. There will be a new focus of social and emotional learning and health in the school environment. Classes have been both in-person and virtual. Joan suggested we connect with the Sidney Summer Program Series through Bill Roach. There is a new SNAP Meal Kit program for education and Andes School Wellness Team will be doing Smarter Lunchroom program this spring.

Youth Summit – We had the October Catskills Youth Climate Summit which consisted of two workshops presented two weeks apart. Planning for the spring youth summit has begun, which will feature a presentation about COP26 is Scotland given by either students or a Cornell professor, the NYC Watershed, composting and fashion upcycling. The summit is being planned as a hybrid event with virtual and in-person at SUNY Oneonta in the morning and in-person only in the afternoon on campus.

NYSERDA Energy Hub – Cheryl and Jeanne are working with CCE Tompkins to put together a proposal to NYSERDA to fund a 4- or 5-year program that will start in July 2022. This will be a new take on the CEEP program which has been extended through June 2022. The Hub will combine with Workforce Development to promote local contractors to become NYSERDA certified to help local residents benefit from the Smart Energy Choices programs.

Future Topics – Carol will do a presentation on a new schools project in April and other committee member are welcome to report on community programs and opportunities across the county at Human Ecology committee meetings.

Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for Volunteers – The Cornell required video training was watched by all committee members who attended the meeting: Paula Brown, Paul DeAndrea, Donna Dickson-Noonan, Joan Hale, Julia Wheeler, Carol Ann Michalski. Karen Ogborn and Julia Wheeler will need to do the training online and send us their attestation.

2022 Meeting Dates – Wednesdays, April 20, June 15, October 19 (2022) at 6:30 p.m.

Notes taken by Valerie Dudley and Jeanne Darling.