

September 25, 2020

Board of Directors Meeting – via Zoom

President Shelia Ange thanked everyone for attending and introduced Dr. Rosalind Dale and Dr. Mike Yoder who brought administrative updates to our group.

Dr. Dale shared a PowerPoint presentation which included the Solutions for North Carolina (solution4nc.net) and Mission Possible in Motion (bit.ly/MPiM2020). She shared an announcement for Small Farms Week and the 2020 Small Farmer of the Year which will be announced live on September 30, 2020. The Grassroots Leadership Conference for 2020 will be Thursday, October 22 from 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. and will be held virtually. The theme for the conference will be Creating Equitable Solutions for Stronger Communities. The 2021 Small Farms Week will be March 21-27, 2021. Dr. Dale shared information about upcoming position openings and introduced the first edition of the Try Healthy Nutrition Magazine.

Dr. Yoder brought regrets from Dr. Bonanno as he had another engagement today. Dr. Yoder discussed wearing masks and social distancing. NC State has come out with a plan for Spring semester classes. Extension is not immediately impacted by the furloughs announced recently. Annual conference for 2020 has been cancelled. Many of our national meetings are being held virtually. Hopefully we will see vaccines in early spring which will allow us to move around a little more and have face to face meetings. Dr. Yoder highlighted one of our association goals: To strive to always perform our duties with integrity to help make North Carolina Cooperative Extension the best Extension Organization in the nation. What an incredible goal! The best Extension Organization in the nation looks like this: We generate \$2 Billion in economic impact for North Carolina. Our return on investment is 27 to 1. We generate \$36 Million in tax revenue. There are 1,456 jobs directly supported by Cooperative Extension. We conduct over 13,000 educational programs each year. 72% of elementary school youth eat more fresh produce weekly. 4-H youth are 5 times more likely to graduate college. Between 2016 and 2017 (1 year), we increased the cotton yield gain dollars by \$26 Million. These are just a few of the success stories.

After thanking both Drs Dale and Yoder for taking time from their busy schedules to bring administrative updates to us today, Shelia Ange reminded everyone that the Executive Board and then the Board of Directors decided in May of 2020 to use the standard set forth in our bylaws to address the 2020 State business meeting through our Board of Directors (BOD) because of the current situation where we cannot meet formally. So today, the BOD will be conducting the business of this association on behalf of the general membership. The BOD consists of the State Executive Board, the elected District officers, and the State Committee Chairs. Other members in attendance may enter discussions but not motion or vote.

Shelia called the meeting to order at 10:22 a.m.

Secretary Jeanine Gaul called roll with 29 in attendance. Roll was called by Districts and also by individuals within each district to maintain a list of members eligible to vote. Campus – 5, NC – 3, NE – 10, SC – 4, SE – 5, and W – 2.

Becky Castello gave parliamentary review and verified a quorum was present to conduct business of the association.

Shelia called for an approval of the agenda. With no changes, Cheryl Tripp made a motion to accept the agenda; seconded by Michelle Kasey. To make voting easier, Shelia called for anyone opposed to the motion to speak. Hearing no opposition, the motion passed.

1st Vice President, Jill Cofer, gave the Thought for the Day: “As we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same.” – Nelson Mandela

Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting from May 14, 2020 via Zoom were posted to the website. Jeanine was available for any questions. Jill Cofer made a motion to accept the minutes; seconded by Donna Holland. With no questions and no opposition, motion passed.

Standing Committee Reports:

Finance Committee Report – Treasurer Brandy Hansen is not with us today. Everyone received a copy of the report. Kareis Britt made a motion to adopt the Treasurer’s report; seconded by Christie Bell. With no questions and no opposition, financial report was adopted.

Membership Committee – Sheila Powell, Chair – A of May 14, 2020, we had 148 members. In May, the BOD approved Tammy Hagi for honorary membership. We will address final approval of this recommendation later in the agenda.

Nominating – Crystal Mercer, Chair – The Nominating Committee gave the proposed slate of officers. There were no nominations for secretary from the floor. Recommendation from the Nominating Committee was seconded by Suzanne Hugus. There being no opposition, the recommendation was approved. Your slate of officers for the 2020-2021 year will be:

Jill Cofer – President, NC
Beth Cloninger – 1st VP, SC
Christie Bell – 2nd VP, NE
LaToya Lucy – Secretary, SE
Brandy Hansen – Treasurer, W
Shelia Ange – Advisor, NE

Rules & Bylaws – Brigitte Perry, Chair – The Rules & Bylaws Committee proposed a change in May of this year which was approved by the BOD. That proposal needs final approval from the BOD today on behalf of the general membership. The recommendation is to reword Article IV - Membership, Section 5, 1st bullet to read:

Honorary membership may be bestowed upon a member/retired member in recognition of outstanding service to the Association. Recommendation in writing shall be made to the *District Membership Committee Chair*. *If approved at the district level, the district chair will forward to the State Membership Committee Chair to present recommendation to the Board of Directors*, who, after two-thirds vote, shall recommend the candidate to the Association at an annual meeting. A majority vote of the members assembled shall be required to confer the honor. An Honorary Member shall pay no dues except where he/she is an Active or Associate Member. Recommendation from the Rules & Bylaws Committee was seconded by Christy Boyce. There being no opposition, the recommendation was approved.

Professional Improvement Committee – Joy Pierce, Chair – Shelia commended the Professional Improvement Committee who worked diligently to put together our virtual professional development sessions for this week. Congratulations to former chair, Nancie Mandeville, who retired as of September 11 of this year. Due to the experience as a former state chair and current member of this committee, Shelia asked Joy Pierce to fulfill the duties of the chair position for the remainder of this month and thanked her for agreeing. Joy reported: The committee received 3 applications for the Professional Improvement Scholarship. This year's recipient is Annie Freeman of Richmond County in the SC District. We would like to remind everyone to check the NCCEAPA website for all award deadlines and encourage you to apply for or nominate someone for each award that comes available to us.

Public Relations Committee – Wanda Hargrove, Chair – No report.

Reflections Committee – Donna Holland, Chair – Donna thanked the Reflections Committee members and shared a PowerPoint update of the 2019-2020 year. Great job Donna!

Sue Mills Lighthouse Award, Distinguished Service Awards, and Executive Board Award – Shelia Ange – We did not receive any nominations this year for any of these awards. This has been a crazy year! With the COVID shutdown and most of us working from home more than from anywhere else, we didn't get a good response to the award this year. We are all busy and this COVID-19 has really ratcheted busy to a new level. I don't believe we need to stop offering awards. Administration has always looked favorable on our awards in the past. I think we need to take a step back this year and recognize the turmoil we have all been dealing with; then move on to a fresh start with a new slate of officers and a new outlook for each of us.

Herter-O'Neal Scholarship – Joy Pierce for Beth Cloninger, Chair – Shelia thanked Beth for coordinating the scholarship in this very challenging year where the students were not in school or college, but Beth and the committee pulled it together! Joy reported: We had 5 very strong finalists and after carefully deliberation, the panel selected James Burcham of Wilkes County in the North Central District. Panel members were Nancy Keith, Iredell CED; Nancy Miller, retiree; and Melissa Gems, High School Vice Principle. Google Drive was used to collaborate. A huge thank you goes out to the Committee members for a job well done.

Honorary Membership – Sheila Powell, Membership Chair – The Membership Committee brought the recommendation for Tammy Hagi to the Board for final approval; seconded by Evelyn Stahling. There being no opposition, the recommendation has been approved.

NCJCEP Report – Anita Wright, NCJCEP President Elect – Our last meeting was in July and conducted via Zoom. We are working to identify the date of the last meeting of this year which is anticipated to be in December and details will be shared as they are available. Anita also announced that the current NCJCEP President, Dr. Jeanine Woods, has taken a position with Virginia State as the Associate Administrator. That moves Anita into the President’s position to finish out her term.

NCSU Staff Senate – Sheila Powell, Senator – Due to the pandemic, things have been slow. The staff senate retreat was in July. I will be emailing informative emails and updates from our staff senate meetings to you monthly. Our next meeting will be in October.

TERSSA Report – our very own Michelle Kasey, TERSSA President – Hello from TERSSA! We currently have 174 members from 8 states and North Carolina leads the pack with 84 members! I’m pretty proud of that! In the spring, a Zoom board meeting was held and we voted to hold in place the board members due to pandemic and the desire of the other states wishing to travel to North Carolina for the planned annual meeting to be held here (which is now 2021). We are all looking forward to the NE District’s Outer Banks experience, and so by holding in place, we will still all get to enjoy that as well as the other 7 states. Our marketing and outreach committee has spent a lot of time connecting with new states and Alaska has joined us recently. If you are not a member of TERSSA, please consider joining. The basis on which this association was formed is improve the lives and careers of members by providing one voice to improve the development of Extension and Research across the nation through professional recognition, networking with states, administration advocacy, and professional and personal improvement. (from the website TERSSA.org) Please visit our site, TERSSA.org to see how being a member can benefit you. I, for one, have benefited by working with admins from different states and have gained valuable professional development. I have been fortunate enough in the last few years to travel to both Mississippi and Louisiana, New Orleans in particular (and that was the bomb!) Please give me or one of the other members a call or email. We would love to talk to you about joining our national association: TERSSA.

Old Business – none.

New Business

2020-2021 Proposed Budget – Recommendation from the committee was seconded by Jill Cofer. There were no questions and hearing no opposition, the 2020-2021 proposed budget was adopted.

There was no other New Business.

2021 State Meeting Invitation – Christie Bell, NED President – The NE District invites you to the 2021 State meeting at Kitty Hawk September 21-24, 2021. We look forward to seeing each and every one of you next year!

Installation of 2020-2021 Officers – Suzanne Hugus, Advisor – Suzanne asked for volunteers to stand in for our 3 absent board members. Suzanne used a mirror ceremony to install the slate of officers with Stephanie Watts standing in for Beth Cloninger, Michelle Kasey standing in for LaToya Lucy, and Kelli Miller standing in for Brandy Hansen.

The 2020-2021 slate of Officers is:

Jill Cofer – President, NC
Beth Cloninger – 1st VP, SC
Christie Bell – 2nd VP, NE
LaToya Lucy – Secretary, SE
Brandy Hansen – Treasurer, W
Shelia Ange – Advisor, NE

There being no other business, Shelia thanked everyone for their patience in this difficult year...and passed the virtual gavel to Jill. The real gavel will be mailed to Jill. Please send all reports to Jeanine.

Shelia asked for a motion to adjourn. Michelle Kasey made the motion, seconded by Sherry Lynn. Motioned passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanine Gaul, NCCEAPA Secretary