

NCCEAPA Called Executive Board Meeting
August 24, 2023 – 10 a.m. (via Zoom)

Present: Christie Bell, President Maryann Mickewicz, Treasurer
 Roben Jarrett, 1st VP Kareis Britt, Secretary
 Julie Campbell, 2nd VP Beth Cloninger

Absent: LaToya Lucy
 Susan Johnson

The Executive Board met August 24, 2023, via Zoom to discuss the current finances and operating expenses, and go over ideas on how to meet operating costs. President Christie Bell called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Secretary Kareis Britt took roll based on who was in attendance on the Zoom; attendees listed above.

Financial Status – Treasurer Maryann Mickewicz, while preparing the proposed budget for the upcoming business meeting, found that current operating expenses exceed incoming dues. After doing some research into past years, she found that this year (FY 2022-23) is the first year in several years where the entire proposed operating budget was actually used; past years have not had recipients for all rewards budgeted, and/or have not had to pay travel expenses for all board members.

It was noted that membership has steadily decreased over the years, and that decrease has greatly reduced the incoming revenue. It was also noted that donations and sponsorships that have always been included in operating budgets have also decreased over the past years, and if and when received, have been less than what was included in the proposed budgets. After reviewing expenditures approved in this year's budget, including the amended expenditures needed to get the Money Market account down for tax purposes, the proposed budget based solely on projected incoming dues and money in savings/Money Market accounts will cover the upcoming year's expenses (FY 2023-24), but will have us operating in the red the following membership year (FY 2024-25).

Discussion led to conclusion that donations, unless received prior to the end of the current Fiscal Year, should not be included in future proposed budgets, as they are not guaranteed. It was also discussed that as an Association, we should be self-sustaining, and our operating costs should be met by dues, and donations should be considered "padding". Maryann's research showed dues have not been raised in a significant number of years (at least the last 10), despite costs steadily increasing. Comparisons to other Extension Association's dues show NCCEAPA is well below average on amounts for state dues. It was proposed that it is time to raise dues, and this should be presented for vote at the upcoming business meeting.

Discussion on ways to further increase revenue, including a yearly state-wide Association fundraiser and moving the dates of donation requests to sponsors up so all pledges could be made and received prior to the creation of the operating budget were suggested.

All information found during Maryann's investigation of the finances will be presented in the Treasurer's Financial Reports to the Executive Board, Board of Directors, and General Assembly at the upcoming state meeting.

No motions were presented to be voted on, and no new or additional business was presented.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kareis Britt

Kareis Britt, State Secretary, 2022-23