I. Call to Order by President Eileen at

II. Approval of Agenda – Motion by Shannon Linquist, support by Gretchen Hofing, to approve the agenda with the addition of: 1) Retired EE’s, and 2) Doris Wetters. Motion carried.

III. Approval of Minutes – Motion by Holly Tiret, support by Linda Cronk to approve the minutes of the Fall meeting. Motion Carried.

IV. Appointment of Committee to Review Minutes - Members, Jennifer Berkey and Suzanne Pish, will review the minutes from today’s meeting.

V. Officers’ Reports

- President, Eileen Haraminac

  Submitted 5 Impact reports to NEAFCS- Eileen thanked the membership for the impact information.

  Human Development/Family Relations
  Housing and Foreclosure Education/ Family Resource Management
  Improving Health and Physical Activity - “I Know MI Numbers”
  Social-Emotional Health: RELAX-Alternative to Anger
  Food Safety- Food preservation

  Submitted award for Community Partnership

  Had correspondence with NEAFCS President, Amy Peterson about dues and membership for part-time (50%) staff
  Peterson “we (NEAFCS) do not have a membership category that could work in that situation that would reduce fees - that in turn would mean we would have to reduce their membership privileges and then how do you make things fair to those that are paying 100% of their dues? If you want to do something at the affiliate level to help reduce costs that is up to you but at the national level, there is no additional category. We do have the Member-In-Transition category, but that is based more on employment versus income. There is no plan to do a reduced membership fee plan.”
  March 15th responded to board and MEAFCS member about Amy’s answer. Eileen conveyed this information to Joan Vinette.

  Provided support to the committee for the organization of the HNI retreat
PILD (Public Issues Leadership Development) Prep - background reading about two congressmen, prepared packets if information addressing SE region and Wayne Co. and the NEAFCS Impact reports - highlighted Michigan’s HNI program outcomes.

Prepared May 2nd MEAFCS meeting agenda

- **President Elect, Jennifer Berkey**
  - Participated in the MEAFCS Fall Membership meeting at FEC.
  - Participated in the November conference call for planning the HNI retreat in January.
  - Participated in the MEAFCS Board meeting in Mt. Pleasant in November.
  - Reviewed the minutes from the MEAFCS Board meeting.
  - Participated in the NPA retreat in January.
  - Reviewed the minutes from the MEAFCS conference call in January.
  - Created and distributed the save-the-date flyer for the MEAFCS Spring Membership meeting.
  - Participated in the MCEA award scholarship distribution conference calls
  - Prepared a SAVE the date for retreat.

- **Past-President, Jane Hart**
  - I have been attending MEAFCS meetings and reviewing minutes

No Changes. Balance remains the same as last month’s meeting. Has some bills to pay. Balance will be $4,693.72

- **Secretary – Gail Innis**

  - Compiled information for May meeting
  - Emailed compiled reports and minutes from Mar. meeting to President

VI. REGION REPORTS

**UP-North Region –**

- Have not met yet.
- The updated membership brochures will be distributed at the May 2 membership meeting, and will be used to recruit additional members and encourage lifetime memberships of retired members. Thank you to Carolyn Penniman for providing leadership on the brochure update. The electronic version is posted on the MEAFCS website. Former members and recently retired members will be contacted to consider life memberships. Keep Linda appraised as to who you are contacting.
- Adobe Connect will be scheduled in June.
- The newly formed UP North region will meet in May to finish planning strategies for encouraging membership of both current staff and lifetime membership of retired staff.

**Southwest Region – Joyce McGarry, Laura Anderson and Gretchen Hofing**
MEAFCS meeting minutes; March 15, 2012

Calhoun County MSUE

Attendance: Gretchen Hofing, Joyce McGarry, Brenda Long, Rita Klavinski, Jeannie Nichols, Laura Anderson

- National award for Cottage Food Law – Jeannie Nichols and Jan Seitz
- Impact statement for Nationals – MSUE has info form Food safety, Finance/Housing, SNAP-Ed
- September 16-20 2013 – Galaxy in Pittsburg, PA
- September 24-28 2012 – Nationals in Columbus, OH
- September 15-19 2014 – Nationals in Lexington KY
- Priester Conference through eXtension – Washington DC – Brenda Long, Cathy Newkirk and Linda Cronk are attending (National Extension and Health Nutrition Conference April 10-12 2012)
- Food Safety National Conference
- Every Health Department has an advisory board – should MSUE be on those boards?
- How do we alert staff about Professional Development opportunities? What structure to use?
- May 1-3 2012 – IHN retreat at Kettenun Center
  - Team building
  - Futuring –campus
  - Work group time
  - Dawn C. time
- Norovirus Research Training with Clemson University included Jeannie Nichols, Eileen Haramaniac, Joyce McGarry, Beth Waitrovich, Julie Moberg and Chris Venema.
- For air travel for conferences go to: http://msu.pways.com (for MSU travel)
- District 11 has regular regional meetings with staff
- Looking for candidates for district coordinator in district 13 – Rita is looking for names
- Nutrition specialist update- the search committee has submitted their final recommendation. It is now up to Dr. Derksen and Dr. Contreras to make the final decision on a candidate. This date is unknown but should be soon.
- January retreat for IHN EE’s in Gaylord
  - There were three groups – communication such as News Blast, roles/responsibilities for PA/PIs, structure – a committee has been formed
- Michelle Rodgers is leaving – no replacement at this time
- Next meeting is in May at Kettenun Center
- Rita was contacted to submit her name for the Ombudsman position by Dawn C. – She has accepted and is waiting to be interviewed.
- Events planning is starting in July 2012 – If planning an event with someone else, the money goes into the instate and not to the individual
- Brenda is part of the finance team – funding through libraries for housing education. Offering the same education on the same date across the state; submitted awards for MEAFCS for a website; homebuyer education on-line class self-directed – www.ehomeamerica.org/msue
which is a national program; team meeting about social media from ANR Tech – Kellogg Center; looking at developing DWD using Moodle distance education

- Jeannie is conducting food safety education for PA/PI for Gretchen’s staff

Submitted by Laura Anderson

Southeast – Terry Clark-Jones

Southeast regions responsibilities are Awards and Recognition. A call for award applications went out in December with a due date of Jan. 15. Twelve applications were received and reviewed by four members from the region. Brenda Reau, Chris Venema, Carrie Shrier, and me. If any one of us was part of an application we removed our self from abstained from reviewing and ranking that application. Seven state award applications were forwarded to National as state winners. They are: Carolyn Penniman – DSA, Suzanne Pish-Florence Hall, Eileen Haraminac- Community Partnership, Team Award – Holly Tiret - lead – Human Development/Family Relationship, Team Award – Teresa Clark-Jones – lead – Internet Education Technology, Team Award – Kathe Hale – lead-Program Excellent through Research, Team Award – Jeannie Nichols – lead-Food Safety

There was also one state award- Diana Hassan for MEAFCS Innovative New Program Award.

All recipients will be recognized at the 2012 Fall Membership meeting.

The region also has presented a proposal to membership to change the Joan Rajkovich McGarry Applies Research Award requirements to match the Program Excellent through Research requirements. The region will also develop an Award and Recognition Guidelines to be used by other regions.

Staffing in region: Michelle Relerford is the new EE for Foods and Nutrition in Washtenaw, Monroe and Western Wayne. There has been many new PI/PA hired as well.

We have been notified that we have a National Winner for team of Jeannie Nichols (lead) – Food Safety. Congratulations!!!!

Central – Lisa Treiber

The Central Region has not been able to meet since December, due to scheduling conflicts. They are down to a six members.

There has been one change in membership; Pat Joyce retired March 1, 2012.

VII. Old Business:

- NEAFCS Conference
Hospitality table for NEAFCS conference – We need stuff. Shannon will initiate an email to members about who they will contact and whether they can get giveaways. The conference usually has 600 attendees. Gail will prepare an introductory letter.

Silent Auction – Lisa Treiber is the chair and Lisa needs help. We also need donations of auction items. Email should go out to members to encourage donations. Members willing to donate should let Lisa know and give the items a value.

Members should let Gail know if they are attending the National Conference. Registration opens May 15, 2012.

Award Change – The award committee made a determination to change the number of words for Joan R…..award and NEAFCS Program Excellence Research Award so the two will have the same requirements. The change needs to be emailed out for an email vote.

NEAFCS National Session – The SE Group would like to have a table to showcase the RELAX curriculum/other items. The SE Work Group will pay the $350 dollars for the table. The items will be showcased and postcards will be provided for interested participants to purchase through the MSUE book store.

Professional Development –
  
  - Eileen gave an update on attending the PILD conference. She was very impressed and enjoyed the conference immensely.

**Attended Public Issues Leadership Development Conference (PILD)** Provides professional development opportunities in the area of Public Issues/Policy and to also provide personal growth opportunities.

**Morrill Act’s 150th Anniversary:** For 20 years prior to the first introduction of the bill in 1857, there was a political movement calling for the creation of agriculture colleges. The Morrill bill allocated land based on the number of senators and representatives each state had in Congress. This was more advantageous to the more populous eastern states.

The Morrill Act was first proposed in 1857, and was passed by Congress in 1859, but it was vetoed by President James Buchanan. In 1861, Morrill resubmitted the act with the amendment that the proposed institutions would teach military tactics as well as engineering and agriculture. Aided by the secession of many states that did not support the plans, this reconfigured Morrill Act was signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln July 2, 1862.

**Impact Counts: Telling the Cooperative Extension Story to Stakeholders**

*Speaker:* Marshall Stewart, Associate Director, North Carolina State University Department of 4-H Youth Development and Family & Consumer Sciences: Learn to effectively communicate Cooperative Extension impact to stakeholders, whether local, state or at the federal level

Eileen made two trips to Capital Hill: Met with Senator Stabenow; Congressman Hansen Clarke’s aide, Congressman Dingel’s aide; She followed up correspondence with Stabenow, Dingel, and Clarke. Eileen signed up for Senator’s newsletter and she has heard back from congressmen and the senator’s office.

By-law regarding PILD Conference – Our bylaws read (see handout). Do we need to make changes to our bylaws? The director’s office provides $1000 for the conference costs. There was a consensus to leave the bylaw as is.
- Combining Regions – Should we combine the Central Region with another region? The Central region only has seven members. The North Region has 11-12 members (a combination of UP/North). We will revisit this issue at Fall Conference meeting. The Board will discuss this at our August retreat and bring thoughts to the entire membership. The Central Region and others will discuss this as well.

- Director’s Message – Dawn reaffirmed our importance to the organization as advocates of professional development. She opened the floor for discussion and questions.

  - Is a face to face meeting valuable? Comments were made on the value of a face to face (one time a year in addition to Fall Conference). EE’s only/PA’s and PI’s have other opportunities.

VIII. Announcements:

- Greening Institute – Postcards were distributed on MI Money Health. If you need more contact your local staff that provides
- Food Safety – Postcards were featured/distributed on the Cottage Food Law training. An email will be sent out regarding the training
- Linda Cronk – Will share information from other programs at all classes. Suggestion to provide a one-page flyer on NHI programs.
- Deb G. – Thanked us for making her feel welcome in her new role. She would like input from us on ERIB (what do you like and what would you like to see changed).

VIII. Next meeting – At Fall Conference.

Respectfully Submitted – Gail Innis