

Human Ecology Issue Committee

Tuesday, April 26, 2022 via Zoom • 6:30-7:45 pm via Zoom

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

Call to Order & Welcome at 6:33 pm by Chairperson Donna Dickson-Noonan with the following present either by phone or video: Jeanne Darling, Paul DeAndrea, Carol Ann Michalski, Karen Ogborn, Julia Wheeler. Absent was Joan Hale.

January 2022 Minutes and Additions were approved with no corrections.

Board of Directors Report Donna referenced the minutes she emailed from the March 10th Board of Directors meeting to the HE committee. Also refer to the handouts that Valerie sent out. Donna mentioned that the CCE Board Toolbox was an excellent resource. Another representative is needed from the town of Colchester, Andes, or Middletown area willing to serve on the HE committee. Let Jeanne know if you think of anyone that would be interested.

Stamford Wellness Initiatives/Community Reports - Community Karen spoke about the Stamford Wellness Center located at 67 Main Street which is now a 501c3 not for profit organization. Their mission is to create, implement and support programs that improve the social, emotional, physical, and mental health of the residents of the greater Stamford, NY community. They have received generous grant funding from the Robinson-Broadhurst Foundation with their priority being to provide counseling services to clients on a sliding scale ranging from \$5 to \$50. Counselors have been established and another one is being interviewed next week. Cathy Popp-Mckenna is the Executive Director. Plans are underway with the Stamford Community Gardens entering their 2nd year thanks to the partnership with CCE and others. Carol & Karen to follow up with each other in partnership of a health event.

Alliance – Legislative Appropriation, Building Community Resilience focus groups, EXCITE Summary report Jeanne reported that the 2022 proposals are in for the Alliance grant. This is a competitive grant that has been received for the past 20 years. There are quarterly reports required looking at results and planning accordingly with funds used for Office of the Aging Tai Chi program, Girls on the Run, ADAC Recovery Coach work in jail, Sources of Strength from University of Rochester, and Professional Training. Jeanne shared they had 2 days to design a project with examples using videos & social media demonstrating that Delaware County is sharing and learning how to provide Trauma Informed Care and Building Community Resilience through the pandemic with a report sent into NYS middle of March. Thank you to Jeanne & Karen Graves for all their excellent work.

In-person Sources of Strength training was held at Stamford, Charlotte Valley, and Delhi schools. Stamford Central School had 4 teachers and 18 youth trained on March 10th. They have completed a

trusted adult campaign and spring event. Delhi school has completed a 1-year training with Above the Influence.

The Alliance grant offers \$4,000 funding to O'Connor Hospital for age friendly projects designed to provide better facilities for people to walk and play. Jeanne noted the play area in Bloomville as one example along with the Sidney Park and signs in Bovina as others.

EXCITE report sent out with completed research. Refer to handout. There were 3 focus groups, at camps as well. Meeting tomorrow with Cornell students looking at resilience indicators to build more resilience. They will be continuing with the educational pieces. ACES task force meeting on Friday. OFA to get COVID shots to seniors at home. School based health centers will be the next targeted partners. Work Force training meeting on Thursday. Doing a lot of work with EMS.

Farmers Market Meeting – Refer to handout for minutes of the Walton Farmers' Market meeting in March. The time has been changed now from 11 am to 4 pm. Market opened every Friday from July to September. There may also be 2 evening Chamber events. Possibility to have the Energy Smart Tiny House as an educational exhibit. Music every Friday with the addition of a new farmer vendor this year being a baker. The Food & Health Network South Central NY is now called the Produce Prescription Program. Promoted to individuals who are eligible through their health status or financial status. They will receive \$360 in vouchers over the course of the summer (\$120 per visit for 3 visits with health care provider). This also supports farmers in local communities. Market is growing with lots of great ideas. Next meeting in June. Refer to flyers for information on upcoming Seed to Supper free gardening classes held in Hancock, Sidney & Walton.

Outreach in SNAP Ed/EFNEP programs – Funding for another 5 years for the CROP program beginning July 1 working with BOCES. Grant has changed to now include social & emotional components. With it being a challenging year, working to complete lessons in Milford and Margaretville schools. 10 schools (6 in Delaware County & 4 in Otsego County) plus Edmeston School (Otsego County) makes 11 schools to be served. Approximately 400 families being served & 683 youth reached by providing food for families with children receiving 6 lessons & parents also receiving 6 lessons, this is an excellent opportunity for families to learn and cook together.

Youth Climate Hybrid Summit – Refer to the attached evaluation summary. Jeanne reported this event was held at SUNY Oneonta at Morris Hall with 72 participants. Mark English provided the tech support at SUCO. All youth presentations with students speaking from the following schools: Brown University, Cornell University (2 students spoke on climate change), United Nations School in NYC, South Kortright (student spoke on solar project) & 2 high school students from Lake Placid spoke on their volunteer composting project being done at their school. Four people spoke from the Wild Center and the NYC Watershed had an in-person presentation. The hybrid format was Virtual, Virtual, In-person & Virtual with box lunches served and time to work on & share their Climate Action Plans. Received feedback from interested Cobleskill College contact and Professor from Cornell University. KUDOS to Valerie for her outstanding work with the video, flyer, and recognition in the newspaper for this event!!!

Smart Energy Choices program / Clean Energy Hub proposal – The 2-year funding for the Smart Energy Choices ends in June. Currently working on a proposal with NYSERDA with funding to begin July 1 that needs to be released by the state. Also working with Tompkins County CCE. The Heat Smart program is also rolled into this with many partners in the Clean Energy Hub proposal being a regional grant. Will be

working the next 2 months to iron out a few challenges with more budget work involved. Been working on this since July of last year with Cheryl (Energy Advisor) working part time to offer these services to Delaware County. Looking at funding from other sources to allow her to work on Energy issues full time.

Fair meeting and community group recruitment – Refer to the attachments. Looking for community groups to exhibit at the fair. This is an opportunity to make people aware of what’s going on in Delaware County. Last year there were 5 exhibits. Some possible groups mentioned: Montessori School, Walton Library, Public Health, Stamford Wellness Center, or a new business. The Fair Committee will be meeting in late May. Valerie can send out packets to any interested group.

Sidney Summer Series – On behalf of Joan Hale, Jeanne shared information about events happening in June, July & August. Refer to the flyer that Valerie sent out. Joan to share and report about at our next meeting in June.

Adjournment at 7:44 pm with a motion made by Julia and seconded by Carol.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, June 15, 2022 at 6:30 pm.

Notes taken by Karen Ogborn