

New Hampshire Association of Family & Consumer Sciences

Minutes from the Board Meeting August 19, 2008

Common Man, Concord, NH

4:40pm – 7:41pm

Attending: Jennifer Opalinski, Doris Williams, Joan Fossum, Nora Beaton, Eileen Holmes and Nancy McIver. The meeting was called to order at 4:40 by President Jennifer Opalinski.

Goals for 2008-2009: Jennifer Opalinski began the meeting with an overview of her professional goals for the upcoming year as president. Three primary goals were stated: 1.) Promote Family & Consumer Sciences and raise awareness within the state of NH. 2.) Work with neighboring states and involve more NH members in the organization. 3.) Build the NHAFCs.org website to make it a more dynamic and useful tool for educators. Nancy McIver asked whether these goals should become NHAFCs goals and be submitted to headquarters. Following Jennifer's goals each board member stated their goals for the upcoming year which are listed within each committee report below.

Secretary's Report: To be reported at the November 5th 2008 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Nora Beaton presented the Treasurer's report. The checking account balance as of 08/19/08 is \$7,422.83. There are outstanding accounts to be paid that will leave the checking account balance at an estimated \$7,022.83. The exact balance will be reported at our next meeting. The scholarship savings account has a balance of \$2,326.57. The CD account has a balance of \$5,188.87. In the absence of a fall conference (due to the Northeast Regional Conference) revenue will be generated through the sale of merchandise at the N.E. Regional Conference and at the Spring Conference only. The board highlighted the need to be conservative with expenditures at this time. Nora is in the process of finding a certified accountant who will review the financial statements and make sure we are following proper procedures. Nora will create a form to be used when speakers at conferences are paid, doing so will help with accounting.

The State of the Association: Joan Fossum began her report by distributing a report listing eleven schools that have hired new alternative IV teachers for Family & Consumer Sciences. The board agreed that we should contact the new teachers and Joan agreed to develop welcoming materials and contact each teacher with information about our state association. Joan has set up a list-serve for FCS teachers through the Department of Education. The goal is to enter the list-serve data and test it before unveiling to the general public. Granite State College is on board to offer FCS courses: The Science of Food Prep and Housing which Joan has been working hard to organize. Mentors will be needed to work with students. Joan emphasized the need for the state association to promote itself in light of ongoing struggles to keep Family & Consumer Sciences viable in the schools. Joan encouraged the board to look at what areas of the curriculum FCS addresses that no other departments in NH schools cover. Relationship skills, child development, parenting, housing and basic food preparation were mentioned. Jennifer Opalinski recognized that the issues Joan faces are daunting but recommended that the Association take one step at a time to build awareness and promote our programs. Jennifer offered to help Joan and the Association by speaking before the Principals Association and other organizations. A free-standing retractable banner has been

designed and will be printed within the next few weeks. Joan shared copies of the proposed banner and asked for input from the board.

VP External: Doris Williams will pull together another wonderful newsletter to be posted on the website this fall and sent via direct mail to members who request it. E-mailing the newsletter will cut costs. Doris also agreed to print more mouse pads and possibly T-shirts to be sold at the Northeast Regional Conference in October. Jennifer and Doris will work to revise the NHAFCs brochure and have that available at the conference as well. Doris also agreed to take on more of a public relations role, writing a press release and working with newspaper and radio to get the NHAFCs name out there.

VP Internal: Joan Fossum is currently VP of Internal with the aid of Cynthia Grisa. Joan will develop materials for the new alt. IV teachers and use those materials for the NE Regional as well. Joan offered to fill in at the NH Association table at the conference when needed.

Northeast Regional Conference: Eileen Holmes reported that the NE Regional Conference in Nashua NH is coming together with 125 registered to date and the goal of 175 more prior to the October 3rd event. Eileen requested reimbursement in the amount of \$139.32 for her hotel expenses incurred while planning the conference. Joan made a motion: I move that we cover the cost of the hotel for Eileen's stay for the 2-night NE Regional conference planning meeting. Doris seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously in support. Next, Eileen asked if the board would like to rent table space at the conference for \$75.00 for the two days. Eileen made the motion: I move that we purchase a table at the conference for a fee of \$75.00. Joan seconded. The motion passed. Eileen will bring lanyards to the conference to be sold and will look into a hanging glass ornament produced on Cape Cod that might be a nice product to sell. Eileen suggested the Betty Lamp be in the design. Jennifer Opalinski agreed to check printing costs for a bookmark to announce NHAFCs website. Doris will bring a cash box to the conference and Jennifer will bring the NHAFCs Banner. Eileen was complimented for her work tireless work on the project.

VP Program: Nancy McIver presented the theme "Sustaining Our Future" for the NHAFCs spring conference follow in the footsteps of the National Conference in Knoxville in June 2009. May 8th 2009 was chosen as the conference date. Nancy will work to secure the necessary speakers. Jennifer Opalinski offered to contact the Grappone Center in Concord to check availability for May 8th.

Future Meeting Dates:

November 3rd 2008 / Monday – Plymouth, NH 5:00pm (Locations to be announced)
January 12th 2009 / Monday – Concord, NH 4:30pm
March 9th 2009 / Monday – Plymouth, NH 5:00pm
May 8th 2009 / Friday – Spring Conference

Meeting was adjourned at 7:41pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Opalinski

