

**NACDEP**  
**August Board Meeting**  
**August 14, 2009**

**Present:** Hank Cothran, Michelle Eley, Charlie French, Ed Jones, Deborah Tootle, Mike Woods Paulette Cooper, Cynthia Pilcher, Tom Chesnutt

**Minutes:** Hank Cothran moved and Charlie French seconded to approve the May minutes. The motion passed.

**2011 Conference:** Tom Chesnutt joined the group to talk about Birmingham, AL. It is the largest city in Alabama. The Sheraton, possible site hotel, is located downtown and recently underwent a large renovation. A sister organization, FCS, is holding their conference there in about a month. The Board thanked Tom for his information and he left the call.

There are three main concerns that the Board has about Birmingham, the area safety, the involvement of area members and things for people to do in the evenings. Hank Cothran said that he would call his brother-in-law and check out the safety issue.

By Tuesday or Wednesday, information will be put together and sent to the Board.

Connie Wagner stated that this really show that the site selection policy and application need to be thoroughly reviewed since we do not have enough information to make a decision without going back for more information.

**Financials:** Hank Cothran reviewed the financial information for July. Hank Cothran moved and Deborah Tootle seconded to accept the financials. The motion passed.

Hank Cothran reviewed that with the current NACDEP financial state, we will have to go into the CD again this year. Last year we took out \$15,000 and it will probably be that much again this year.

Hank Cothran moved to affirm the expenses and Deborah Tootle seconded, motion passed.

Paulette Cooper moved to accept the May and June financials and Deborah seconded. The motion passed.

**Regional Reports**

**NE:** Charlie French reported that Mary Peabody has been appointed the new Associate Director of the NE Region, effective August 1.

**1890:** Paulette Cooper reported that Dr. Freddie Richards is the new administrator for the Cooperative Extension Program and Dean of Ag at Prairie View A&M University.

At PV they are trying to get a program started called "Community Investment Clubs", where community members will invest in community and economic development efforts of their respective communities.

Most everyone is involved in some type of literacy program. Louisiana Extension programs are working with funds from a grant to promote literacy. Some retirement programs are in the works also.

**S:** Cynthia Pilcher reported that the southern region has been working on Turning the Tides on Poverty – see attached.

**Federal Update:** Sally Maggard reported that there have been different working groups developed. She had input on the urban group. The US vice president is working on the middle class.

### **Galaxy Wrap Up:**

Mike Woods call in about 1 hour to plan the next one. His committee has asked to review and put new policies in place. Although policies may be developed now, by the time the next Galaxy is here, there will be a different Board and they can make changes.

First item on the call is profit sharing. It is 11 months since the last Galaxy and JCEP member organizations have not received reimbursement for expenses or any profit sharing.

The questions came up, do we have to participate with Galaxy next time? Basically, after the new rules are in place, NACDEP can choose to participate or not. Once again, they can change by the next Galaxy.

**Conference 2010:** Deborah Tootle reported that the call for people to serve on committees went out. Although there was a good response, more people are needed for reviewing proposals.

Currently, the committee is way ahead compared to last year.

Deborah asked if the Board members would be interested in a pre-conference Board Meeting as well as a post-conference meeting. The pre-conference meeting normally finalizes the agenda for the annual meeting and topics for the regional meetings. Board members felt that this was a good idea.

**Sustainability:** Ed Jones stated that another webinar is currently in the planning stages.

**Committees:** Ed Jones sent an E-Mail to current committee chairs and has received some responses.

**Member Services:** There have been no calls since the conference, but the committee will be meeting soon.

**Manager:** Connie Wagner reported that she has collected the last two conference registration fees.

With no other business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted.

Connie Wagner  
Association Manager

## **Turning the Tide on Poverty**

### **What is it?**

This is a pilot research project addressing poverty and underlying issues of poverty. This project may be duplicated throughout the south pending the results of this pilot program.

### **Who initiated it?**

*Turning the Tide on Poverty* was initiated by the Southern Rural Development Center (SRDC) and was modeled after the Horizons program. Other states participating include Oklahoma, Alabama and Georgia. Each state will select 2 pilot sites.

### **Format?**

The facilitator for the site will assemble a core community team (up to 10 volunteers) to participate in the training series. At the completion of the training, additional team members (up to 10) may be invited to participate. The group will meet regularly for brief meetings beginning in March 2010 to select and execute a project in a time frame of approximately 3 months.

### **Facilitator?**

Dr. Cynthia Pilcher, Area Agent, Community Rural Development, LSU AgCenter will serve as facilitator/ project coordinator and will participate in all training sessions. James Hendrix, LSU AgCenter has agreed to serve on the core team.

### **Training?**

The following training dates have been set and will be conducted via distance education from the LSU AgCenter office in the Tensas Community Center:

**Friday, August 21, 2009: 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.**

**Friday, October 2, 2009: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.**

**Friday, November 13, 10 a.m.-noon**

February 2010- TBA

The training sessions will be archived and made available in a make-up session if needed.

Plans are to provide a light lunch at each of the training sessions.

Participants will acquire skill sets from participating in this project which can be utilized in other community projects as desired.

### **Timeframe?**

Training sessions will be conducted from August 2009 - February 2010. The group will complete work via the Everyday Democracy format from March - June 2010.