

**Richland County Extension Service**  
**Advisory Council Meeting and Appreciation Night**  
November 29, 2007  
Sandhill Lakehouse, Columbia, SC

**Council Members Attending:**

|             |               |                   |                  |
|-------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Doug Alsop  | Ed Bell       | Peggy Culler-Hair | Vivian Davis     |
| John Fogle  | Ed Garrison   | Louise Gantt      | Michael Grant    |
| John Hart   | Bryce Haywood | John Monroe       | Cynthia Robinson |
| Wilma Weeks | Bill Wyatt    | Val Hutchinson    |                  |

**Invited Guests:**

|                  |                 |               |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Paulette Kindler | Ryan Nevius     | Delilah White |
| Nakisha Smith    | Mattie Bookhart | Timothy White |

**Extension Staff:**

|                  |              |               |              |
|------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Howard van Dijk  | Mac Horton   | Barbara Lupo  | Ted Williams |
| Walter Harris    | Paulette Gay | Jackie Kopack | Don Carter   |
| Victoria Cushman | Patty Harris |               |              |

Meeting started at 6:40 pm

**Howard van Dijk** - He welcomed all attending. He introduced Dr. Mac Horton who presented a brief overview of the Sandhill REC Center and talked about the relationship between the Center, Extension and University. He elaborated on the strategic planning the Center is conducting with Richland County, and the role Extension is playing in working with the Hopkins area.

**Ed Garrison** updated the group on the meetings held by the State Advisory Council. Also, as a result of several ad hoc meetings by selected council members, Richland County has recently completed a community development program entitled: *Community in Crisis, a Survivor's Guide*. This program lasted for eight weeks and educated the participants on different services and resources that exist in Richland County. Monica Miller was the key organizer who administered the program. This program was a direct result of the Advisory Council.

The dinner invocation was delivered by Paulette Gay. After dinner attendees had the opportunity to visit the various exhibits set up around the room and talk with two visiting 4-Hers: Tim White, and Nakisha Smith about their activities with 4-H.

**Ed Bell, Chairperson:** The last official meeting of the Advisory Council was held May 15, 2007 at the Richland County Adult Recreation Center on Parklane Blvd. Dr. Katherine Cason, State Program Director for Family and Science was the guest speaker.

Ed Bell addressed the group on the importance of attending and participating at Council meetings. It was noted that the two target areas decided upon previously by the council were Food, Safety and Nutrition, and Youth-Development (4-H).

Cynthia Robinson made a motion that the Council conduct a day long strategic planning meeting that would be facilitated by a Clemson resource around March 15, 2008. Motion was seconded and passed.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to table subcommittee meeting dates until after the strategic planning meeting is held in March 2008.

Mrs. Weeks stressed the importance of marketing 4-H and refilling the vacant 4-H Agent position. It is extremely difficult to have youth participating without the assistance of a 4-H agent and also the Extension program support that comes with the agent. Mrs. Weeks stated that several dropped programs at the State level hopefully will start up again, but we still need an agent to help make sure that these programs happen.

Ed Bell reviewed the Extension objective areas.

Bryce Haywood suggested that a booth be setup at the Sandhill Farmers Market each week to help market 4-H similar to what the Master Gardeners have done. It was also suggested that they could use the same tent and rotate it with one another.

Master Gardener guest, Ryan Nevius updated the group on the master gardener projects. They will be planting trees at Fort Jackson on December 8<sup>th</sup> for Arbor Day. They also conducted classes for new homeowners at the base to teach them how to implement landscaping designs and how to care for the plants, etc.

Howard presented Clemson Extension portfolios to the Council and the invited guests as a token of appreciation from Richland County Extension for their help and support.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

*Patty Harris*

Patty Harris  
Administrative Assistant for Richland County