

**NE Iowa Food & Fitness Initiative**  
**Fayette County Planning Team Meeting Minutes**  
**March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009 - 4:00, ISU Extension Office, Fayette**

Attendees: Maureen Johnson, Leif White, Donna Story, Joe Organist, Sheryl Struthers, Vicki Rowland, Deb Kahler, Tatum Kahler, Dave Runyon, Scot Michelson, Rod Marlatt, Gale Bishop, Ann Bushman, Trudy Campbell, Michelle Zander, Hope Onken, Ruth Schemmel, Karla Organist, Dan Burkhart, Samantha Morine

1. Committee Members shared what they have appreciated most about the county planning team experience – WE APPRECIATE...
  - Our regional team members' reports indicating a strong regional team that thinks as a region!
  - Seeing people working together
  - Meeting new people and people who care about the community
  - The amount of work that's been done and the eagerness to help
  - Networking
  - The fact that all ideas are treated equally
  - Working with others who share the same trail vision
  - The passion of all involved
  - The diversity of our group as to areas of interest
  - Locally Grown Food – once you start looking, you see that it's really a BIG movement
  - The positive attitudes
  - Being the "think tank" of a region
  - The fitness movement is now being recognized
  - The good local food
  - The sense that there are so many people interested and involved.
  - The school meetings – a great way to get new ideas.
  - The continued high attendance at our county meetings
  - People who come to our county meetings because of their dedication to the cause
  - People who give of themselves and share their vision of the future
  - After hoping for a local food movement in our area for so long – it's finally here!
2. Salsa Contest was wonderful! The winners were all of the committee members who got to enjoy the salsa! Special thanks to Vicki Rowland, Ann Bushman, Hope Onken, and Dan Burkhart for the salsa!
3. Dan introduced Samantha Morine, a student who gave up her spring break to spend a week in the world of all thing Extension. She and Dan have been busy visiting local producers throughout the county and she will be compiling profiles of each for upcoming publications.
4. The Fayette County Trails committee made a brief report. They are working on a brochure to distribute as part of their local fundraising campaign that kicks off shortly. The goal is to raise \$100,000 as a match for grants awarded.
5. Regional F & F Leadership Team Report:
  - Committee members were given the Regional Team Summary report for review. Extra notes were made about the great strides our youth teams are making and the activities they are planning.
  - The report from the WKKF Networking meeting in San Antonio was very positive. Our team felt that it was a very valuable experience for all and noted that our area seemed to be making more progress than other areas of the nation. One of our youth became quite the star at the event too!
6. Discussed the future roll of the county team, comments included:
  - Keep the county team meeting – in the same way as it is now, with representation at a regional level.
  - We need to keep the momentum going
  - Would like to see subcommittees at the county level too
  - On a quarterly basis (or some fairly infrequent interval), regional workgroups should invite all county team members to their meetings.
  - We need a big tourism push, even if we were to get no funding, the plan has always been to keep meeting as a county.
  - As different issues or ideas come up, keeping the county team meeting regularly will help us address them.
  - Is there a place for leadership cultivation – without losing the experience?
7. Ideas for use of mini-grant funds:
  - Small community recreation projects (i.e. ice rinks, community gardens, etc.)
  - Scholarships for educational opportunities
  - School Programs
8. Additional ideas for FFI Promotion:
  - Local farm bus tour or "Farm Crawl"
  - "Little Hands on the Farm" like the State Fair event.
9. Next Meeting April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009. 4:00 – 6:00, ISU Extension Office.

Our Vision:

NE Iowa is a unique place where all residents and guests of every age experience, celebrate and promote healthy locally grown food with abundant opportunities for physical activity and play EVERY DAY. Healthier people make stronger families and communities.