

NE Iowa Food & Fitness Initiative

The NE IA Food & Fitness Initiative Regional Team met on April 29, 2009 from 11 am to 2 pm at the Decorah City Hall. Present:

	Allamakee		Clayton		Fayette		Howard		Winneshiek
X	Lana Snitker	X	Halesia Johnson	X	Scot Michelson		Rob Hughes	X	Eric Nordschow
	Danielle Bucknell	X	Tim Englehardt	X	Sue Burrack	X	Elaine Govern	X	Karen Foster
X	Mary Koopman	x	Brian Rodenberg	X	Joe Organist		Ronda Hughes	X	Rick Edwards
	Vacant		Carole Glawe		Vicki Rowland	X	Larry McGee	X	Lindsay Erdman
	Vacant		Brandon Friedlein		Trent Moeller		Karn Anderson	X	Liz Dovenberg
	Vacant		Kim Nelson		Luke Dement	X	Carmen Dohlman	X	Hannah Ranum
			Miranda Walz				Dan Miller	X	Gabe Smith
			Molly Franta			x	Wyatt Lee		
			Kristina Walz						
			Kristen Bergen						
	Diversity Reps		Adm Team						
	Leah Brown	X	Brenda Ranum						
		X	Ann Mansfield						

Others: Kathy Zuercher, MJ Smith, Teresa Wiemerslage, Dan Lane, Judy Issacson, Vanette Grover.

Welcome and Introductions – Instead of having a regular County Planning Team meeting in May, the Vision WG is suggesting an on-site visit to learn about local food production and or active living opportunities in your county. “Name one place you’d like to visit as part of your May County Planning Team meeting.”

- David Cavagnaro’s Pepperfield project
- Winneshiek trails
- Cedar Valley Produce Auction
- Plantpeddler
- Kay Vifian’s herb service
- Local food producer
- Rueben Fox farm
- Annie’s Gardens and Greens
- See all the stuff that Brandon does in Clayton county
- Farm tours in Winn Co on June 7
- Lime Springs school gardens
- Seed Savers
- Ann and Alicia Payne are starting mini-CSA
- Visit Clayton County trails

H. Johnson moved to approve March Regional Team minutes. Michelson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Regional Team reviewed the April Work Group Summary Report.

- This new format is an attempt to prepare a document for review before the Regional Team meetings. It will also serve as a monthly record summary of events and evaluation tool.
- Discussion about renaming the Built Environment group to the Active Living Workgroup. Group consented to the change.
- New calendar on the website for food and fitness events. At this time, send your events to wiemer@iastate.edu to be posted.

Michelson moved to give \$1000 toward the Postville focus group and mileage. Nordschow seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Michelson moved to hire Liz Smith as a summer communications intern at 15 weeks, 20 hours per week for \$3000. Eric seconded. Motion carried.

Lunch & Vision Work Group Report

- “Emerging” RFAs (handout). This is an internal document. This is only the start of the discussion. We need to hear from WKKF about the amount of funding that will be available.
- Brenda and Ann described the RFA review process. Comments from the Regional Team.
 - Q: Will the RFA ideas be shared and grouped? A: We are looking for ways to incorporate these ideas and secure funding. How can we make these programs more comprehensive and regional.
 - NE IA Funders Network wants to establish dialogue on how to leverage funding.
 - Communications Team: opportunity for messaging to bring on other partners.
 - A brief summary of the RFAs submitted will be prepared.
 - Feedback needs to be sent to all applicants thanking for participation and next steps. How will this work in? What is the new timeline?
 - Q: Is it fair to say that some of the second tier of RFAs would be for second year? A: Yes, many ideas can be submitted in the continued planning around Active Living, Schools and Food & Farm.
 - Kathy recommended that we put all the “structure” we need for FFI work into the WKKF CAP because they are one of the few funders that will fund those pieces. There are more funders that will fund “projects” and those funds can be used to implement.
 - Q: Will there be an RFA round every year? A: We are not at that point yet, but it is something to consider. We are still waiting for the RFP from WKKF.
- New Regional and County Planning Team Timeline (handout)
 - Site visits for the May meetings. The Regional Team should take the lead and can move the date to accommodate schedules.
 - No Regional Team meeting. Happy Memorial Day!
- Updated NE Iowa FFI Organizational Structure (Draft #3)
 - How do we maintain regional balance with 23 team members and make sure that one or two counties don’t dominate? A: We will take this into consideration as we develop our plan.
 - Is there a procedure to form the new regional team? A: Not yet. We don’t want to lose our institutional knowledge so we need to keep some of that base.
 - Does community health need to have conferences and mini-grants? They are the messengers for our work. A: Their work will be incorporated into the community and work group conferences. Their messages will cross all work groups and county teams.

- What happens to the workgroups on this chart? i.e. Inclusive Team. A: Need to have Inclusive team members on each of the work groups. The other groups are included in regional team or support.
- The county teams need to have an agenda to prevent them from going away. A. Workgroups will be working with the county team coordinators to pull to agendas together.
- Can we have a 5 county conference to learn more about each other? A. That is in the plan if we can fund.
- What do we need to draw more active engagement in our county teams?
 - Empower the county teams with some additional money
 - How do we keep those who submitted RFAs interested?
 - How do we open up this work for volunteers? Through county teams?
 - What other organizations, businesses, etc should be at the table in the counties?
 - How will we bring them to the table (i.e. banks, leaders, etc)?
 - Who do we bring the current structure to another scale?
 - Upon funding from WKKF, is it appropriate to have a county-wide celebration to get people back involved. Share stories.

Next Steps:

- Submit request to Linda Jo Doctor asking the amount of funding available for Implementation so NE Iowa FFI can plan for the scope of our work
- Job descriptions will be developed, with approximate funding needed to complete the leadership roles and estimated in-kind provided by partnering organizations providing staff for leadership positions (ISU Extension, Luther College, DNR, etc.)

Success Story

Walk to School Wednesdays in Central. There are kids running “miles” to school or parking out the way to ride bikes to school. The school wellness team has been very supportive. 5K Run/Walk on May 9. Youth developed a FFI webpage for their school. Their school coach is building the FFI Regional School meeting days into their professional development plan.

Discuss NE Iowa FFI Organizational Structure (Draft #3) – Facilitated by Kathy Zurcher

Regional Team members were asked, “Where do you see yourself in the implementation phase?”

County Planning team: Larry, Sue, Tim, Scot, Joe

Unsure: Karen

Active Living WG: Tim, Scot,

Youth: Hannah, Liz, Gabe, Carmen

Wherever needed: Rick, MJ, Brenda, Ann

Community Health: Halesia,

NIFF: Eric, Teresa

The following items were tabled until the next meeting.

- Report on WKKF Networking Meeting in San Antonio, TX
- Report on WKKF Farm To Cafeteria Meeting in Portland, OR
- Report on WKKF Food & Society Meeting in San Jose, CA
- Upcoming 2009 Childhood Obesity Conference, Los Angeles, CA June 9-12, 2009

NO May Regional Team Meeting

June Regional Team Meeting, Wed, June 24, 11 am – 2 pm.

Recorded by Teresa Wiemerslage.
