



East Baton Rouge Parish Overall Advisory Leadership Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Monday, July 14, 2008
Time: 10:00 – 11:45 a.m.
Location: Family Road of Greater
Baton Rouge
Meeting Called to Order: Sharman Charles
Facilitator: Sharman Charles
Minutes Recorded/Prepared: Sharman Charles,
Karen Stevens and Ali Benda

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Members in attendance are as follow:

Fatemeh Malekian
Claire Fontenot
Robert Wallace
Terrence Marshall
Pam Hodson
Fannie Terril

Pam Malveaux
Linda Day Phillips
Sally Soileau
Gisele Haralson
Beverly Bailey
Kristin Brandon

Dale Walsh
Andi Abraham
Karen Stevens
Eva Davis
Ali Benda
Sandra Smith

Research and Extension Programs
Agriculture
Economic/Community Development
Environment/Natural Resources
Family/Nutrition/Health
4-H Youth Programs

Sharman Charles opened the meeting, welcomed council members and began introductions. Advisory members introduced themselves and the agencies/groups in which they represent.

Sharman Charles informed members of the purpose of the meeting and the roles and structure of the advisory council. Members of the council were informed that their role would be to guide the overall parish programming efforts.

Mrs. Charles presented a power point presentation to ensure the understanding of the Extension Service to all members. She reviewed the missions of both the LSU AgCenter and the Southern University AgCenter, how both AgCenters are organized, funded, and educational programming responsibilities of the faculty and staff in East Baton Rouge. She also discussed the fact that parishes have to renew cooperative agreements with local governments and obtain 10% local support for salaries and benefits. In East Baton Rouge Parish, Sharman informed council members that an agreement has been developed and signed by the four public school systems and with the City-Parish Government.

Sharman asked faculty members to provide an overview of programming outreach by program areas. Terrence Marshall gave an overview to council members of the agriculture and natural resources (ANR) programs conducted by both LSU and Southern University AgCenters' faculty within East Baton Rouge Parish. Dr. Sally Soileau provided an overview of the LSU AgCenter's family and consumer sciences

The LSU Agricultural Center, a statewide of the LSU System, and Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, a statewide campus of the Southern University System, provide equal opportunities in programs and employment. Louisiana State University and A & M College, Southern University and A & M College, Louisiana parish governing bodies, and United States Department of Agriculture cooperating.

(FCS) programs outreach within the parish. Karen Stevens presented a synopsis of the FCS programs conducted by Southern University Ag Center faculty and staff. Dr. Pam Hodson informed council members of a new grant opportunity that the LSU AgCenter will be participating in; she turned it over to Gisele Haralson to give further information. Gisele then provided information to council members on the changes to the child care training program and gave information on the new grant in which LSU AgCenter faculty and staff will be participating in the Quality Rating project with child care centers. Sharman Charles provided additional information on LSU AgCenter FCS programs such as the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP). Additionally, Sharman presented information on financial resource management (FRM) work being conducted by Laura Lea Perault. Beverly Bailey presented a summation of the 4-H projects and club activities; such as recruiting clubs and leaders to participate in the program. Ali Benda overviewed the Jr. Leader club, its projects and explained how the process is implemented. Mr. Marshall also discussed the animal project clubs (livestock and horse) and the participation within these clubs. Mrs. Stevens provided information on the Y.E.S. After-School program conducted by the Southern University Ag Center. She explained the differences between Y.E.S. and 4-H and discussed the outreach provided by the program.

Mrs. Charles overviewed the minutes from the initial Overall Advisory Leadership Council meeting held in December 2006. The recommendations provided by council members at that meeting were presented. There were thirteen recommendations identified by the council members. Sharman discussed initiatives that have been addressed thus far by parish extension faculty and staff. Additionally, she provided information about why some issues have not been addressed; reasons being staffing, issues not within the mission of extension, suggestions for collaborations to be established to address those initiatives that the parish extension cannot address.

Next, Sharman led the discussion with council members to address new needs with those recommendations that had previously been identified and develop new recommendations for parish staff. The recommendations were as follow:

1. Wellness education – schools and community centers (healthy choices, STD's, prenatal, exercise, etc.) -
 - a. Expand wellness programs to housing developments. Nutrition education programs for parents living within the housing developments are needed. Ms. Terrell (O'Brien House) would like to explore family strengthening (nutrition, physical activity,, etc.) programs within the housing developments that she is currently working with
 - b. Strengthening wellness programs within the East Baton Rouge Parish School System to expand outreach and educate more youth
 - c. Strengthen partnerships/collaborations with Southern University's Ag Center with nutrition and wellness programs to avoid duplication of services
 - d. Increase services/outreach to middle/high school aged youth. More train-the-trainer type models to reach that age group
 - e. More programs need to be provided addressing teen pregnancy (prevention) and teen parents
2. Financial resource management (all economic groups) -
 - a. Welcome to the Real World program information was presented to the council. The library system was discussed as a possible venue to host the program. High school students were discussed as an excellent group to target with the program

- b. Small business entrepreneurship programs (collaboration between LSU and SU AgCenters)
 - c. Faith based organizations should be recruited as partners for FRM work
 - d. Series of financial literacy classes offered within the library system for both youth and adult audiences.
 - e. Senior groups were also identified as an audience in need of financial literacy classes (senior centers and libraries)
3. Early childhood development programs(Ready Program, Michigan and character education) –
 - a. Department of Health and Hospitals' (DHH) early childhood education child safety program is an audience for possible outreach.
 - b. Emergency preparedness is interested in safety, health and wellness for young children
4. Programs to help build stronger family units –
 - a. Anger management and family strengthening classes series offered through the library system
5. Programs on emergency disaster response (financial aspects and targeting underserved populations) –
 - a. Collaborations with other agencies that specialize in emergency preparedness needs to be developed
 - b. Information provided through the LSU AgCenter's website and disaster packet can be utilized when outreach is needed
 - c. LA House and state specialists can be utilized as a resource for emergency preparedness outreach
6. Programs to assist landowners (esp. small farmers) in identifying best usage of available land
7. Civics (voting) literacy for youth and adults
8. Bridging formal and informal education (workforce development)
9. Marketing of programs –
 - a. Not only marketing extension programs, but also those programs that extension collaborates with; all agencies and organizations serving as each other's voice
10. Programs addressing teen pregnancy prevention and for young mothers
11. Awareness of non-credited educational programs
12. Incorporating messages about tobacco use in youth materials & programming –
 - a. 4-H should collaborate with the DEFY program sponsored by the LA Tobacco Free Living office.
13. General nutrition education for low income families

Council members stated that some recommendations could be merged to avoid duplication. Those recommendations that are to be merged are as follow:

1. Wellness education , (#13) general nutrition education for low income families , and (#12) incorporating messages about tobacco use in youth materials and programming
4. Programs to build stronger family units and (#10) programs addressing teen pregnancy prevention and programs for young mothers

There are now ten recommendations presented by the overall advisory council. Those initiatives are as follow:

1. Wellness education – schools and community centers (healthy choices, STD's, prenatal, exercise, etc.)/General nutrition education for low income families/ Incorporating messages about tobacco use in youth materials and programming

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2. Financial resource management (all economic groups)
3. Early childhood development programs(Ready Program, Michigan and character education)
4. Programs to help build stronger family units/ Programs addressing teen pregnancy prevention and programs for young mothers
5. Programs on emergency disaster response (financial aspects and targeting underserved populations)
6. Programs to assist landowners (esp. small farmers) in identifying best usage of available land
7. Civics (voting) literacy for youth and adults
8. Bridging formal and informal education (workforce development)
9. Marketing of programs
10. Awareness of non-credited educational programs

Sharman received signed copies of advisory roles and responsibilities from new council members. The council stated that they would prefer to meet in the morning. Sharman will email dates for the next council meeting in January 2009. Members were thanked for their participation and the meeting was adjourned.