



NYSFAAA Executive Council  
December 16 2014  
Remote Meeting

**Call to Order & Roll Call**

President Kerrie Cooper

1<sup>st</sup> VP- Jan Scheutzow

2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Howard Leslie

Secretary-Kathy Flaherty

Treasurer- Kerry Lubold

Past-President – Scott Atkinson

Past-Treasurer –Pat Johnson

Region 1- Sean Hudson- excused

Region 2- Melissa Casselman

Region 3- Darrin Rooker

Region 4-Kristina Delbridge

Region 5- Roberta Daskin

Region 6- Lucy Villaquarin

Region 7- Gene Rogers

Region 8- Todd Moravec

Lisa Simpson – HESC Liaison

Guest: Sue Mead – State Government Relations

Kerrie Cooper called the meeting to order at 2:06 pm with a quorum of Executive Council present.

**Approval of October 20, 2014 Minutes**

Motion: A motion was made by Scott Atkinson, seconded by Pat Johnson to approve the minutes. There was no discussion. The motion was passed with all in favor, no oppositions and no abstentions.

**Treasurer's Report – Kerry Lubold and Pat Johnson**

- Pat and Kerry are in the final stages of transitioning treasurers.
- 2012-2013 audit is complete
- 2013-2014 is in process, November bank statements have been submitted and reconciled

Kerrie Cooper thanked both Pat and Kerry for getting the fiscal records up to date.

- Meeting with audit team
  - Balance sheet is shared; things seem in good order
  - Met earlier in December to help with transition
  - We have a long history with them which they understand
  - They will prepare and submit taxes, retain records for 7 years
  - provided the 2012-2013 audit

- Several recommendations were provided and most are not ones we need to be concerned with: having a second set of eyes on monthly statements, record retention and destruction policy which will be discussed later
- Process of having committees and others taking in checks will be reviewed
- Suggestions will be provided for financial record keeping
- Has had conversations with three committee chairs reporting to the Treasurer
  - Scholarships: Debra is happy with her role (looking at cookbook fundraiser)
  - Development: Tami looking for more grants in NY Grants Gateway, and through foundation center beyond NY; looking at monthly cost
  - Budget and Finance: Rob will be sending in budget request for 2015-2016 soon to provide draft budget for February Executive Council meeting

Kerrie Cooper : auditors informed us that we are required to have a conflict of interest policy as of July 1, 2015. Should all or some look at it, collect other samples, pass on to Governance – what is next step. Kerry Lubold will collect samples of others' policies and present a draft at the February meeting for discussion and approval.

Jan Scheutzow asked: does the dues income include Novice dues? Yes

Sean Hudson explained: Conference budget is close to being final. Some items had to be reclassified.

Roberta Daskin commented When using the Foundation Center, a one-month temporary membership can be requested and does not need to be renewed.

Motion was made by Scott Atkinson, seconded by Todd Moravec to approve the report. All were in favor; there were no oppositions or abstentions.

#### **Past-Treasurer Report – Pat Johnson**

- No report at this time

#### **President's Report- Kerrie Cooper**

- HESC Board of Trustees met on October 29, 2014
  - discussed first semester of STEM
  - Young Farmer Forgiveness program is having trouble finding eligible candidates. HESC has received many applications but because of conditions for eligibility cannot approve any (operating a farm has been clarified, but finding someone in a leadership position within 2 years out of college is not easy)
- Participated in College Application Week (November 17 -21) as part of the federal FAFSA completion effort
- Final CACG grant is in at \$6.5 M
- Save Perkins Now
  - Next meeting is January 7 2015
  - about 4000 business cards were given out at FSA
- Still looking for a Fed Government Relations chair to get involved and run the advocacy part of this group
- Attended Region 7 meeting and retirement event for Heather
- Sue Mead recently testified before the Assembly Standing Committee on Education and will testify for the New York State Alliance Supporting Aid luncheon in Albany

### **Past-President's Report- Scott Atkinson**

- Contacting former election and governance committees to be prepared for work coming up
- Attended the EASFAA meeting recently
- There is a February advocacy day in Washington

### **First Vice President's Report- Jan Scheutzow**

- Membership
  - 2014-2015 numbers are about 269 short
  - 76 outstanding invoices for \$4500; committee is working to follow up on these
  - \$56,805 dues received for 2014-2015, which is higher than actual in Treasurer's report and novice should be additional
  - Active members- 954; Associate members- 80; Retired members – 18; Lifetime members - 9
  - Members are very active regionally
  - Membership survey is out with a response date by the end of year

There was a **question** about affiliate membership – a lot of counselors renewed their membership selecting affiliate rather than active but they were not contacted to say they selected wrong category, and didn't notice until went to pay

**Answer:** your regional person should review those who sign up and reach out to correct, titles are sometimes confusing

- Revised definitions for Associate and Affiliate memberships were accepted and voted on electronically. The new definitions were approved.
- Revenue Sharing Determination
  - Affiliate members are being counted in revenue sharing numbers, and constitution is not clear on this
    - The following comments were made:
      - They should be eliminated in count since they are not producing revenue
      - Numbers as of June 30, 2014 are used to pay 2014-2015 revenue sharing.
      - January is payment date is coming up but there is time to correct the numbers before payment is made.
  - Jan will propose revised wording for the Policy and Procedure manual. Executive Council will discuss and vote on the change.

### **Second Vice President's Report- Howard Leslie**

- General State Wide Training
  - Most popular session is the FSA PIN replacement. This will be presented on January 22 2015, along with FAFSA changes.
  - February 12, 2015 – Needs Analysis
  - February 26, 2015 - Jim Briggs
  - March 5, 2015 – Verification for Beginners
  - March 15, 2015- Verification for Intermediates
  - April 2, 2015 - Verification for Advanced
- Needs Analysis Training

- Curt Gaume, LaSonya Griggs and Mark Stephens are putting a lot of work into this preparation
- December 17, 2014 will be the first meeting with all regions; Region 6 has provided no information, and region 4 still needs to provide technical contact
- A meeting will be scheduled just with technical staff for testing (January 8, 2015 from 1:00 pm-3:00 pm was best date/time for those who responded) and then another meeting just with facilitators will be scheduled in January
- Send another save the date notice to your region.
- Novice – Lisa Simpson
  - Going back to Mercy College for one more year before going to bid.
  - Schedule has been adjusted to arrive on Saturday and end after lunch on Thursday
  - 2015 dates: Saturday May 30- Thursday June 4
  - Looking at same budget (\$600).
  - Kerrie Cooper is looking for at least one person to shadow Lisa this year. Lisa suggested: could have chairs of different areas (manual, transportation/athletics, registration/web/payment) most work could be done before the actual event
- Intermediate Training
  - It was decided to provide this training every other year; it was done last November

#### **Secretary's Report- Kathy Flaherty**

- GEARUP: Gene Rogers
  - call with Ray Cummings of HESC will be made soon to identify schools involved.
- College Goal New York: Gene Rogers
  - met September 18
  - Applied for funding, with results available in October
  - New sites are being added
  - Website and marketing coordinators will be Ann Doyle and Kathy Crowder
  - Promotional materials will be coordinated by Sonya Griggs and Ann Doyle
- School Outreach: Gene Rogers
  - Early Awareness only one on Long Island last year
  - included some traditional and savings topics
- Technology, Innovation and Communication Committee
  - Amanda Prescott will co-chair with Lea Nuwer
  - Now able to be back on task with meetings and activities
- Annual report is now available on NYSFAAA website

#### **HESC Update – Lisa Simpson**

- John Austin is retiring; last day is January 16, 2015
- Loan forgiveness for farmers: work in progress
- Loan comparison tool: contract has expired with the National College Finance Center, HESC will be updating their website with new information
- Working on the new year start-up
  - Expecting minimal changes in the application

- Expect to have the link from the FAFSA confirmation page ready for January 1, 2015
- Going forward will enforce that second family member in college must attend NY college to qualify
- Start Here; Get There website is up and running
  - FAFSA filing dates are listed
  - To add your event to this list, contact Lisa
  - FAFSA chat and phone help will be available January 5 – February 5, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm daily
- HESC is working with high schools on FAFSA completion initiatives. FAFSA filing progress and TAP filing progress data will be provided. Counselors will have user id and password to get the information
- HESC is working on STEM initiative
  - certification at end of semester
  - Question: if a student has a social security number for work authorization they cannot get aid. They will be flagged as a non-citizen for both federal and state aid.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

No additional reports

### **Regional Updates**

None at this time

### **Old Business:**

- **Conference 2014**
  - Working on final report for presentation in February
- **Conference 2015-** Sean Hudson
  - Working on their theme
  - 2014 evaluation results were sent to Laura Worley
- **Conference 2016 Proposals**
  - Several regions including 2 and 6 are investigating options for sites, combining with another region to produce the conference
  - Saratoga Hilton has reached out to offer their site for future conferences
- **Operational Calendar Review**
  - January: requesting agenda for Feb meeting
  - Election committee gathering – next election
  - Executive Council and Advocacy Day in February

### **New Business:**

- **February Meeting and Advocacy Day**
  - Assemblywoman Glick, Assemblywoman Fahey met with Sue Mead followed by email. They are looking at procedural and structural changes for TAP (fewer schedules, professional judgment by Financial Aid Officers, standardizing the independence definition).
  - Discussion on TAP reform is gaining momentum. Excellent time for advocacy day (February 10, 2015).

- Goal is to target people from Higher Ed committee on Senate and Assembly sides, especially from schools in their areas.
- Scott added that we need a new slant since we have used the same last two years. Perhaps use stats and data this time. Legislature wants data
- Invite Albany regional people to participate in advocacy and from the regions represented on the committee
- Sue will schedule appointments
- **NY Buzz**
  - Members are encouraged to list the financial aid events in their areas

**Next Meetings:**

- February 9-10, 2015 (Advocacy Day) Albany
- April (remote) – April 15<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 2:00 pm-4:00 pm ( tentative)

**Adjournment**

As there was no further business, a motion was made by Lucy Villaquiran, seconded by Howard Leslie to adjourn. All were in favor, no one opposed and there were no abstentions. The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm