

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, August 17, 2023
James P. Coughlin Center - Meeting Room D
& Zoom Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Steve Binder, Karen D. Powers, Kay Horan, Tom Borchart, and Doug Zellmer.

Members Absent: None.

Extension Winnebago County Staff: Chris Viau, Dana Berger, and Amy Hendrickson (via Zoom).

Others Present: None.

Meeting Called to Order at 9:01 a.m. by Steve Binder.

Comments from the Public Related to Items on the Agenda/Requests to Add Items to the Next Agenda: None.

Approval of Minutes: Horan moved to approve the 7/20/2023 minutes, second by Borchart. Motion carried 5-0.

Safety Share – Tom Borchart: Borchart reminded everyone to report and stay away from downed power lines.

Committee Chair Report: Binder reported hearing many more praises than complaints regarding the PGI fireworks event. He gave an overview of the public event he attended. All are encouraged to attend the Friday event.

UW Division of Extension Program or Educator Reports and Updates:

- **4-H Youth Development** – Berger distributed handouts recapping recent 4-H activities. 4-H Fall Forum and National Congress are statewide opportunities that youth can attend. The Annual Financial Report and Charter Renewal for each 4-H club are due soon. Outdoor Classroom building will begin now that Fair is over. Other completed programming includes: Photography Workshop, Watercolor Workshop, ChickQuest, and a Mount Olympus trip. Berger reviewed her plan of work with the committee. Berger's plan of work includes a focus on quality programming and expanding access, matching the state focus. 4-H clubs recently completed Club Surveys asking youth about their experiences and interests. Once completed, the results will be given back to club leaders to utilize in their planning. Berger also initiated a questionnaire for 4-H club leaders about where they would most appreciate Berger's support: youth leadership, project education, or club roles. Once completed, Berger will collaborate with each club individually. Upcoming 4-H events include: All-County Meeting, membership re-enrollment, education around non-traditional types of 4-H clubs that are available, Interstate Exchange presentations, and the Family Banquet. Discussion ensued regarding the 4-H Endowment Fund. Winnebago County 4-H is the fastest growing 4-H program in Wisconsin.

Berger delivered an overview of 4-H activities at the 2023 Winnebago County Fair. Activity stations were available inside the Expo building for kids. 4-H events at the fair included the Fashion Show, Spotlight Stage, Award Ceremony to recognize Key Award winners, scholarship winners, delegates, graduating youth, etc., animal auction, and a ChickQuest station showing recently hatched (1 week old) chicks and eggs hatching during the Fair. Discussion ensued regarding breakdown of volunteer duties involved to run the fair.

Extension Administration and Department Reports – Chris Viau:

- **Facility Updates:** The office is making steps to clear additional space and create flex workspaces that are more effective and ergonomic. Office furniture will be posted within the county and/or on public surplus. The dividing wall in Conference Room A/B is in need of service. Hendrickson is coordinating this with Facilities.
- **Staff and Department Updates:** Extension Winnebago County is fully staffed. Stephanie Bowers is our most recent addition to the team; she will introduce herself and her Regional Dairy Educator role at the next Extension Committee Meeting. Hendrickson is collaborating with the Parks Department to determine whether a different reservation system could meet the needs for both departments while being user friendly for both internal and public customers.
- **Area/Region/State Updates:** Viau briefly reviewed financial updates at the state level affecting the UW-System.

Wisconsin Counties Association-UW Madison Division of Extension and Education Steering Committee

Update: The next meeting is a hybrid meeting September 8th, Horan plans to attend in-person in Madison. The purpose of this meeting will be for the WCA to collaborate with Extension to determine how all WI counties can

utilize Extension services and work well together. Horan and Viau met earlier this week to help prepare Horan to participate in the upcoming meeting. Discussion ensued.

Announcing Upcoming Extension Events at County Board Meeting Discussion: The monthly Extension Winnebago County Newsletter that has resumed has been helpful for committee members to refer to when sharing upcoming event/program information; all county board supervisors are receiving the newsletter as well.

Comments by Committee Members: Powers pointed out an email address error on the program/educator updates handout.

Next Meeting: Next regular committee meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 21, 2023.

Adjourned: Horan moved to adjourn at 10:26 a.m.; seconded by Zellmer. Motion carried 5–0.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Hendrickson