

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, November 17, 2022
James P. Coughlin Center - Volunteer Room
& Zoom Virtual Meeting

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

Members Absent: None.

Extension Winnebago County Staff: Sarah Thompson and Amy Hendrickson.

Others Present: Mike Norton (Winnebago County Board Supervisor); Rachel Dowling (Winnebago County Board Supervisor) and Jared Longsine (Diversity Affairs Commission chair) via Zoom.

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: Dowling shared her personal experience regarding the Diversity Affairs Commission.

Approval of Minutes: Powers moved to approve the 10/20/2022 minutes, second by Zellmer. Motion carried 5-0.

Safety Share – Tom Borchart: Borchart reminded everyone to use caution when driving in winter weather conditions. Powers encouraged everyone to use the penguin walk to reduce slips and falls.

Committee Chair Report: Binder wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

UW Division of Extension Program or Educator Reports and Updates:

- **4-H Youth & Science** – Thompson distributed a handout to the committee and reviewed her recent programming. Thompson and Dana Berger will be attending the Regional 4-H Meeting in December. The committee congratulated Binder for receiving the Friend of 4-H Award.
- **Community Development** – Mia Ljung has rescheduled her presentation for December.

Extension Administration and Department Reports – Chris Viau: Hendrickson distributed Viau's report handout and a copy of the 2023 contract. Powers read the report aloud.

- **Facility Updates:** Hendrickson advised that bubbling carpet is being addressed by the Facilities department to reduce trip hazards. Floor mats have been purchased to cover cords in meeting rooms to reduce trip hazards.
- **Staff and Department Updates:** The Health & Well-Being Educator and Regional Dairy Educator positions expected to be posted in January with April 1st start. The Regional Crops Educator position is expected to be posted in December, starting early 2023. The Regional Positive Youth Development Educator position timetable is undetermined.
- **Area/Region/State Updates:** The Extension All Colleague Conference is December 5 - 7, 2022. All Extension employees are expected to participate. County employees are encouraged to attend any relevant content as schedules allow.

Announcing Upcoming Extension Events at County Board Meeting Discussion: None identified.

Diversity Affairs Commission

- **Action on resolution to Dissolve the Diversity Affairs Commission as passed at the September 8, 2022 Diversity Affairs Commission meeting** – Zellmer moved that the DAC continue to move forward with the assistance of UW Extension staff; seconded by Binder. **Motion carried 4–1 (4 votes in favor and 1 abstention).** Discussion ensued regarding challenges of the DAC. Horan requested it be noted in the minutes for invitations to be extended to Extension Committee members and other partners/advisors to attend DAC meetings.

Scholarship Task Force Updates: They will be requesting for scholarships to be doubled in 2023. They will reach back out to Mary-Ann Mueller to be added to the December agenda.

Comments by Committee Members: Horan shared her goal to be open to discussion/debate to come to an understanding without finger-pointing, and encouraged others in the same approach. Borchart highlighted his concern with limited funds for the county; he anticipates departments needing to track and show impacts to determine where cuts may need to be made in the future.

Next Meeting: Next regular committee meeting will be held at 9:00am on Thursday, December 15, 2022.

Adjourned: Powers moved to adjourn at 10:32 a.m.; seconded by Zellmer. Motion carried 5–0.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Hendrickson