

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, April 15, 2010
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Tom Widener, Susan Locke, Nancy Barker, John Reinert, and Paul Eisen
UW-Extension Staff: Chris Kniep, Nick Schneider, Dan Teuteberg, and René Mehlberg
Others Present: Tom Egan, Winnebago County Fair Association.

Meeting called to order at 9:01a.m. by Chair Tom Widener.

Comments from the Public related to items on the Agenda: None

Motion to approve March 18, 2010 meeting minutes by Barker/Locke. Motion carried 5-0.

Program Report:

4-H Youth Development, René Mehlberg & Dan Teuteberg: Mehlberg reported on the 4-H Leaders around the Lake conference which Winnebago County hosted. Approximately 80 youth and adults from Winnebago, Outagamie, Fond du Lac, and Calumet counties attended. Winnebago County had 6 youth and 1 adult serve as seminar presenters. The 4-H Sponsored Speaking Contest was held on March 30 and is an outreach effort as about 70 of the 80 participants were not 4-H members. The event is promoted through the 4-H newsletter and the Optimist Speaking Contest, which the key 4-H volunteer who works with the event is also involved with. A 4-H alumnus at UW-Oshkosh has started a Collegiate 4-H club. Their main function is service to the community, including the local 4-H community. They have been meeting bi-weekly since February, have officers elected, have helped with pizza making, and reading 4-H scholarships. Mehlberg also reported on the club visits she has been doing with “Speed Stacking” – a competition of stacking and un-stacking cups. It introduces fun into the 4-H meeting that people of all ages can enjoy. She is hoping to have a 4-H Speed Stacking competition at the fair.

Teuteberg spoke about the 1st Annual Youth Leadership Conference sponsored by Winnebago County 4-H & Menasha Joint School District on Saturday, April 17 in Green Bay. Youth in grades 5-8 will participate in four leadership sessions. The conference is being funded as part of a grant from the Fox Cities Community Foundation. Underprivileged youth were targeted to attend and 125 youth throughout Winnebago County are signed up.

Teuteberg showed the state communicator award he received for his promotional work; he also received Mitch Mackey ESP grant to help fund his attendance at the National Afterschool Association Conference.

Winnebago County Fair Association: Egan thanked Kniep, Mehlberg, Teuteberg, and Schneider, for their support to the Fair Association. He also reported that the Winnebago County 4-H Leaders Association has been sending a representative to the Fair Board meetings which has opened up communication between the two groups. Entering of exhibits for both open and junior fair will be done on-line.

Egan highlighted many new things the fair is bringing in. They are planning on having a tent outside with the Expo stage and inside the Expo have a quilt show and a display of Fair Association memorabilia. They are also planning a parade on Friday at 4:00p.m.

Egan asked how to access the \$20,000 that was allocated by the County Board for the centennial of the Winnebago County Fair Association. Egan is to bring back an outline of expenditures of where the \$20,000 will be used to be voted on at the May meeting.

Winnebago County Board Scholarship Program – René Mehlberg: A total of 25 essays were received with 18 being forwarded for review. Applicants represented 8 high schools and 14 supervisory districts. Essays are being reviewed with recipients determined by May 5.

Committee Chair Report – Tom Widener: Widener asked about attendance at the district WACEC meeting. Widener will communicate with Kniep the make-up of the committee following the re-

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organizational meeting April 27th.

Widener also announced the motion regarding the Oshkosh Community Garden that occurred at the March meeting does not need to go to the County Board.

UW-Fox Valley Update – Tom Widener: Members received a copy of the resolution for \$90,000 for the engineering study for the engineering building. Kniep will finalize the resolution which will go to the May Personal and Finance meeting and then to the County Board. Widener reported that Outagamie and Winnebago Counties have approved money to fix the parking lot. He also reported that admissions are up by 7% to UW-Fox Valley. A UW-Stevens Point representative complimented UW-Fox Valley on their work as UW-Fox Valley transfers to UW-Stevens Point have a higher retention rate than those who start at UW-Stevens Point.

UW-Extension – Administration, Chris Kniep:

State WACEC Conference: Kniep shared state WACEC Conference information on June 21-22 in Milwaukee.

2010 Budget to date: Shared 2010 budget-to-date with an additional contracted services line that covers wages and fringes for the educators. Budget looks on track with no red flags.

UWEX Staff/Office Updates: Support staff Linda Block was recently diagnosed with cancer and is currently out. Long term plan is not known.

Neiswender is at the National Extension Leadership Development program in Florida. Kniep shared Catherine received an ESP Mid Career Service Award at the Wisconsin JCEP Conference last week. She has put together sustainability information that will be shared at the May meeting.

Kniep encouraged committee members to let people know of the road construction at the Hwy 41 and 76 exit.

The Oshkosh Area Community Food Pantry, which many program areas are involved in, is celebrating their 1st anniversary on Friday, April 16.

CHIPS plan will be presented Wednesday, April 28 at the Oshkosh Senior Center.

Comments by Committee Members:

Next meeting is Thursday, May 20, 2010 at 9:00a.m.

Meeting adjourned by Eisen/Locke at 10:23a.m. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:
René L. Mehlberg, Recording Secretary