

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, August 19, 2010
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Tom Widener, Susan Locke, Nancy Barker, John Reinert, and Guy Hegg

UW-Extension Staff: Darlene Kramer, Dan Teuteberg, Chris Kniep, and René Mehlberg

Others Present: Jeff Gilderson-Duwe, Winnefox Library System and Oshkosh Public Library; Mark Arend, Winnefox Library System; Theo Knigge, Omro Public Library; Holly Selwitschka, Winneconne Public Library; Tasha Saecker, Menasha Public Library; Stephen Procs, Neenah Public Library; Tom Egan, Winnebago County Fair Association.

Meeting called to order at 9:00a.m. By Chair Tom Widener.

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

Motion to approve July 15, 2010 meeting minutes by Reinert/Barker. Motion carried 5-0.

Reports:

Winnefox Library: Widener gave an overview of the Winnefox Library System, how this committee is the committee of jurisdiction, and how the budget is determined.

Copies of the budget request was shared with Gilderson-Duwe talking through the budget request. He also pointed out the "Winnebago county libraries" brochure that each person received.

Motion to approve the Winnefox Library System budget as submitted by Barker/Reinert. Motion carried 4-1.

Knigge shared that the Omro Public Library is moving ahead with their building project, and there was a recent article in the Northwestern highlighting project.

Gilderson-Duwe shared things are very busy at the Oshkosh Public Library and have had theme weeks during the summer such as Fair Week and Beach Week. Kniep shared that all of the libraries are now part of the MoneySmart Week program with either the Oshkosh/Winnebago County or the Fox Cities programs.

Selwitschka shared that the Winneconne Library received a grant for laptop lab to teach classes on basic and intermediate computer skills including email. This summer started a teen service league to do various community service projects to meet graduation requirements and give back to the community. The program was such a success that it will continue throughout the year.

Saecker shared that the Menasha Public Library is bursting at the seams with various programs, especially story time and teen programs. Had great success with all summer programs. Currently hosting a VSA art exhibit. Marge Lockwater, the children's librarian, received the statewide Librarian of the Year.

Procs shared that the Neenah Library is seeing a great increase in circulation (up 3%) and is working through the staffing challenges it presents. The library is the most used city facility in Neenah. Started a Teen Advisory Board to advise the library staff on resources that teens would like to see at the library.

Arend reported on the county courts/library partnership that provides regular legal programs at the Oshkosh Library. A program on probate was suggested.

Winnebago County Fair Association – Tom Egan: Egan reported that overall fair was a great success. Attendance was up that equates money brought in on gates up \$26,000 to date. Expect to end up in the black by the end of the fiscal year which in November. There are still many bills outstanding. Dates for 2011 are August 9-14. Kniep shared that this was the third year of the transition of fair responsibilities from the Extension Office to the Winnebago County Fair Board and it went very well. Premium checks were ready for exhibitors on Sunday.

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4-H Youth Development – René Mehlberg: Mehlberg highlighted County Fair successes. She shared the Oshkosh Northwestern newspaper article on two 4-H participants. The number of exhibits were down from 2009 by 100 non-animal entries and 215 animal entries. Over 1000 hours of volunteer time was given to make the fair a success. She also shared the success of the work of the AmeriCorps members who oversaw the 4-H Make n' Takes and the Speed Stacking Competition. The 4-H Awards ceremony took place on Sunday, August 8 recognizing: 50 Cloverbud graduates; 13 4-H graduates; 4 Winnebago County 4-H Leaders Association Scholarships; and 5 4-H Key Award recipients. Mehlberg thanked the committee members for their support of the fair by serving as judges, coming out to the fair, or being a sponsor.

Committee Chair Report, Tom Widener:

UW Fox Valley Update focusing on County Responsibilities: The county is responsible for buying all buildings, retains ownership of the buildings and then leases them to the state. County retains maintenance for the buildings. UW Fox is investigating with UW-Stout a two-year degree program on engineering. UW Fox Valley will not be offering the Bachelor of Applied Sciences degree.

Winnebago County Scholarship Program: Widener reported the scholarship program remains in the Executive's budget but may be at a reduce rate, taping into dollars that have been unspent in previous years to fund 9 scholarships. \$23,000 is available from past budgets and \$2,300 in "trust" fund. As established, only the interest is available from the "trust" fund for scholarships, insufficient revenue to maintain the program.

UW-Extension – Administration, Chris Kniep:

2010 Budget up date: Kniep shared the 2010 budget up date. Income ahead of schedule based on where we are based on the calendar. Only area of concern is internal expense line item – 20%+ increase in copy costs is prompting this overage. Dollars in the supplies and equipment category will be used to cover any overages. The overall UWEX budget will come in at budget.

2011 Budget Proposal: Kniep had her budget review with the County Executive on August 10 and one minor change with one \$500 food item deleted. Otherwise the budget was approved as presented to the Committee in July.

UWEX Staff/Office Updates:

- Linda Block is back from medical leave, but will be out again for surgery and radiation treatments. Jamie Paulson, the part time secretary, will be done on September 3.
- Kniep shared that Teuteberg received a National Communicator award from his professional association, National Association of Extension 4-H Agents, for the Winnebago County Family Interest Info packet. He will be honored in Phoenix in October at the National Meeting.
- Neiswender presented on Tuesday, July 27 with Department Heads on sustainability and a "Sustainable Winnebago County" committee is being formed.
- UW-Extension and WISNET received \$32 million in a broad-band grant to expand access throughout Wisconsin. Largest grant that the University System has received.

Civil Rights Review- Action Plan: Received the feedback, which was very positive, but have not reviewed it as a staff. This is an upcoming fall project.

Comments by Committee Members: Locke enjoyed judging the Cloverbuds and the barns. Hegg is looking for the cost of sending a student to UW Fox Valley.

Next meeting is Thursday, September 16, 2010, at 9:00a.m.

Meeting adjourned by Barker/Reinert at 11:35a.m. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:
René L. Mehlberg, Recording Secretary