

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, January 18th, 2017
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Tom Snider, Julie Gordon, Steve Binder, Al Long, and George Scherck.

UW-Extension Staff: Catherine Neiswender, Mandi Dornfeld, and Amy Hendrickson.

Others Present: None.

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

Comments from the Public related to items on the agenda: None.

Approval of Minutes: Long moved to approve the 12/21/2017 minutes; seconded by Gordon. Motion carried **5-0**.

Program Reports:

Family Living: Dornfeld distributed and briefly reviewed results from the 2015/2016 Winnebago County Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Dornfeld distributed a Suicide and Winnebago County High School Students handout that summarized the survey data. There are a variety of community groups, training, and approaches to suicide risk assessment and response. Gatekeeper Training (QPR Certification) is free training to help community members learn how to ask an individual if they are contemplating suicide and be a point-and-time respondent. Other available resources include: peer support groups, educating parents and community members, screening, teaching adaptive skills, student curriculum addressing suicide, comprehensive crisis management planning, strategies for responding to a suicidal crisis, and training staff. Data indicate that youth in our area are struggling to cope with stress and depression in healthy ways. The N.E.W Mental Health Connection's goal is to use the Youth Risk Behavior Survey's "days of feeling sad and hopeless" indicator to reduce teen depression. They've identified a national, evidence-based approach: *Sources of Strength*. Participating schools will complete a social mapping process to identify connections and frequencies of suicidal ideation, suicide attempts, and seeking adult help. This mapping process identifies students who are "bridges" that will receive training with school staff to increase healthy social connections with the goal of decreasing sad and hopeless days, therefore reducing depression, therefore reducing suicide. *Sources of Strength* will be implemented in several Appleton, Oshkosh, and Neenah schools in addition to the Boys & Girls Club of the Fox Valley. Dornfeld has been invited to be 1 of 2 regional trainers for this program. Dornfeld highlighted that this program area isn't directly included as UW-Extension work, but it will be pivotal for influencing community health. Dornfeld invited committee members to the February 9th community viewing of *Resiliency*, a documentary.

Committee Chair Report: Snider shared that Winnebago County Scholarship information will be distributed to local schools. In addition, Extension Committee members are encouraged to personally deliver them to contacts in the schools. Additional copies will be available in February. Snider shared that several Outagamie County organizations have developed a resolution regarding mining practices in the area. Snider opened a motion for Winnebago County Extension Committee to recommend support of Outagamie County Resolution #77-2017-18; Gordon moved; Scherck seconded. Motion carried **5-0**.

UW-Extension – Administration:

Staff Updates: Neiswender announced that Chad Cook has taken on a part-time role with the Environmental Resource Center through July 2018.

Department Activities: Neiswender shared that Kim Miller is compiling an Annual Report for 2017. Copies will be available when complete. Miller has also been following up with Scherck's and Snider's suggestions for Community Gardens since the last meeting.

WACEC Membership: Neiswender announced that Winnebago County UW-Extension has funded the 2018 WACEC membership for the Extension Committee. Neiswender distributed invitation information for the 2018 PILD Conference. Snider encouraged committee members to pursue this opportunity.

Comments by Committee Members: None.

Next Meeting: Next regular committee meeting will be held Thursday, February 15th, 2018.

Adjourned: Gordon moved to adjourn; seconded by Long. Motion carried **5-0**, 10:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Hendrickson