

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, June 17, 2021
James P. Coughlin Center - Room A/B

Members Present: Tom Snider, Steve Binder, Tom Borchart, and Doug Zellmer.

Members Absent: Karen D. Powers was excused to attend a public budget hearing for another committee.

Extension Winnebago County Staff: Chris Viau, Mandi Dornfeld, Christi Gabrilka, Kris Soper, and Amy Hendrickson.

Others Present: None.

Meeting Called to Order at 9:00 a.m. by Tom Snider.

Comments from the Public Related to Items on the Agenda: None.

Approval of Minutes: Zellmer moved to approve the 5/20/2021 minutes; seconded by Borchart. Motion carried 4–0.

Safety Share: Borchart had no report to share.

Committee Chair Report: Snider shared the Diversity Affairs Commission is currently stalled. Updates to come.

UW Division of Extension Program or Educator Reports and Updates: Viau shared that our office has been requested by the Clerk's office and the County Executive to submit meeting items earlier than prior practice. Going forward, the agenda, minutes, and Extension in Review documents will be submitted two weeks prior to the meeting.

Human Development & Relationships/Health & Well-Being – The Grandparents Raising Grandchildren (GRG) Support Group has been unable to meet in person due to being a group considered high risk for COVID-19. GRG Coordinator, Sandy Bell, picked up food pantry items and delivered them to families throughout the pandemic. The deliveries also allowed for physically distanced visiting and interventions regarding child safety and educational support. The GRG group will be meeting outside at a park in Neenah in July, August, and hopefully September, weather-dependending. There are many logistics to work through for this group to resume meeting indoors. Dornfeld anticipates 3-4 more years with the Sources of Strength (SOS) program. Dornfeld will supervise a SOS Train the Trainer course this fall. 5 additional schools have been added to the SOS program for the 2021-2022 school year. Dornfeld has increased outreach through multiple newsletters: Extension Winnebago County Newsletter (monthly), Extension Newsletter for School Communities (monthly), Winnebago Wellness Newsletter (weekly), and Extension Wellness Moment for Winnebago County departments email (weekly). Winnebago County was chosen for a grant to implement the Triple P parenting program; Dornfeld obtained certification to deliver this program. Dornfeld was involved in developing two new Extension curriculums this year: WeCope and 8 Dimensions of Wellness. Digital programs are expected to continue and no in-person programming has been planned yet for the remainder of 2021. The Diversity Affairs Commission has encountered some hiccups. The Bylaws and Mission Statement have been developed. Steering Committee members have not yet been appointed by the County Executive; until members are formally appointed, the group is unable to proceed.

FoodWise – Gabrilka shared that FoodWise staff have increased cross-county collaboration throughout the pandemic due to virtual work. They collaborated with WIC and HeadStart to recruit more families for programs. A focus has been on programming for parents of young children to establish early, healthy eating habits. FoodWise staff have been re-evaluating partnerships while developing their next 3-year plan. Soper will present FoodWise programming at the Oshkosh Farmers Market once per month. Farmers Market attendees who participate in FoodWise programming will receive a \$10 EBT credit to use at the Farmers Market. Soper's marketing will include information to help participants feel more comfortable attending the Farmers Market, including information regarding where to park, where to go, and other information to alleviate anxieties about attending. FoodWise looks forward to making new connections through the Farmers Markets. Soper will be doing programming with the Boys & Girls Club this year as well. FoodWise has also been exploring marketing via social media to advertise their programming and provide relevant information and resources for participants.

FoodWise Annual Contract – Gabrilka requested the committee's support for the 2022 FoodWise Annual Contract.. Snider entertained a motion to recommend entering into agreement; moved by Binder, seconded by Borchart; **motion carried 4–0.**

Extension Administration and Department Reports:

Facility Updates – The Extension office will soon be sending out email notification that the JPCC meeting rooms will be opening for reservations sometime in July. Plexi-guards in place around the administrative staff cubicles and at the front office counters will remain in place.

Staff and Department Updates – Viau is completing Return to Office plans for Winnebago, Outagamie, Calumet, and Waupaca counties. These include a variety of considerations.. Extension staff telecommuting agreements expire July 6th. Extension staff will return to their professional schedule flexibilities where staff will alternate being in and out of office depending on programming needs. Administrative staff have adopted a customer service lead schedule for ensuring visitors and callers receive prompt service while also allowing scheduled blocks of time for staff to focus on other work. The Horticulture Educator position will be posted soon; the goal is to have the position filled beginning October 1st. Viau expects to present a 2021 \$0 Budget Transfer in late Quarter 3 for items related to professional development. 2022 Budget planning is underway. The 2022 budget may also start including revenue and associated expenses for specific 4-H events that fall under Dana Berger's management going forward.

Area/Region/State Updates – Extension staff are each completing their annual Plan of Work to determine and communicate their foci for programming and how they relate to state plans. In the future, there may be some updates to the Agriculture Educator position to accommodate industry changes. Viau will communicate as needed.

Comments by Committee Members: Snider expressed his desire to get the office newsletters out to every member of Winnebago County. Sending newsletters to department, committee, and school leaders with the request to forward to their groups is a good start. Snider suggested using the county directory booklet to send newsletters to a larger audience. Borchart shared the idea of Extension Committee members doing presentations to other groups and schools in the community to spread the information regarding what Extension does. Binder expressed willingness to advertise Extension programming and the Diversity Affairs Commission at the Oshkosh Farmers Market. Discussion ensued regarding expanding access and capacity limitations. Dornfeld suggested her Fall 2021 intern work on developing some Extension Programming marketing and a distribution plan.

Next Meeting: Next regular committee meeting will be held Thursday, July 15, 2021.

Adjourned: Zellmer moved to adjourn at 11:03 a.m.; seconded by Borchart. Motion carried 4 – 0.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Hendrickson