

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, September 15th, 2016
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

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

UW-Extension Staff: Catherine Neiswender, Carol Hollmaier, and Amy Timm.

Others Present: None.

Meeting called to order at 8:58 a.m. by Tom Snider.

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

Approval of Minutes: Scherck moved to approve the 8/18/2016 minutes; seconded by Long. Motion carried **3-0**.

Program Reports:

Community Resource Development: Neiswender reviewed the neighborhood outreach work she has been doing in the community. Neiswender received a grant that is funding temporary employee, Katie Geis, who is assisting with community outreach. Neiswender displayed the results of a “ripple effect mapping” activity they did with a group of residents in the Jefferson Park neighborhood. This activity reviewed the partnership between UWEX and the community, activities within the neighborhood, and observations within the community to identify both the impact of neighborhood efforts thus far and future opportunities. Neiswender distributed handouts explaining the community outreach efforts and purpose. The goal is to strengthen community bonds and interaction within neighborhoods to empower people to get things done. Individuals from Oshkosh, Neenah, Menasha, and Appleton will be invited to attend trainings on how to build relationships, enhance assets, and make things happen later this year. Neiswender encouraged the committee to attend a mini-conference in the fox valley area the morning of October 28th about how to be an “institutional gapper” in partnerships between institutions and communities.

Committee Chair Report: Snider shared that Tom Widener is one of three individuals who will be recognized and receive a *Friend and Advocate Award* from UWEX on Thursday, September 22nd. Members are encouraged to attend. Snider shared that Chancellor Sandeen has reorganized her team. Dean Rick Klemme has been asked to step down and will end his position on November 1st. Karl Martin will step into the interim Dean position for the next two years.

UW-Extension – Administration:

Staff Updates: Neiswender introduced Carol Hollmaier, the new Support Staff member who will be focused on 4-H and marketing UWEX programs. Hollmaier joined UWEX the first week of August. The WNEP Coordinator position remains unfilled. Kristi Beilfuss, from Waupaca County UWEX, will be dedicating about 30% of her time to support the WENP programs in Winnebago, Outagamie, and Calumet counties. Mandi Dornfeld has taken a few weeks off to be with her father in his final days and to grieve with her family after he passed away over the Labor Day weekend. Katie Geis has been working as a grant-funded, temporary Neighborhood Outreach Educator and will end her position at the end of October. Tou Veu has been brought back this year as a grant-funded, temporary Community Garden Coordinator/Liaison and will end his position at the end of September.

Department Activities: Neiswender shared that the *nEXT Generation Resolution* was sent to the County Clerk’s office and forwarded on to Attorney John Bodnar. It will go before the County Board on Tuesday, September 20th.

Comments by Committee Members: Scherck gave an update regarding the UW Fox Valley Trustees. They have approved the replacement of boilers; next up is replacement of the library walls. The Property & Facilities Committee has already approved it. The proposal will come before the Winnebago County Finance Committee on October 10th.

Next Meeting: Next regular committee meeting will be held Thursday, October 20th, 2016.

Adjourned: Meeting adjourned by Tom Snider, 9:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Timm