

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee

Thursday, November 19, 2009

James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

**Members Present:** Tom Widener, Susan Locke, Nancy Barker, and John Reinert **Absent:** Paul Eisen  
**UW-Extension Staff:** Chris Kniep, Dan Teuteberg, Catherine Neiswender, Nick Schneider, Kristi Cutts, and René Mehlberg

**Others Present:** Genna Thompson, AmeriCorps Vista for 4-H Youth Development; Jill Grambow, Menasha Joint School District

**Meeting called to order** at 9:02a.m. by Chair Tom Widener.

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

**Motion to approve September 17, 2009 meeting minutes** by Reinert/Locke. Motion carried 4-0.

**Program Report: 4-H Youth Development, Dan Teuteberg, Genna Thompson & Jill Grambow:**

Teuteberg overviewed his work with the afterschool programs in the Menasha, Neenah, & Oshkosh School districts. He typically does a 6-week program at a site focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (commonly known as STEM) or Lego Robotics, which is a specific STEM program. Teuteberg also provides staff development training which is funded through a Met-Life grant from the State 4-H Office.

Grambow stated that there are 5 afterschool sites in Menasha. She noted two major benefits from the partnership with 4-H Youth Development: 1) programming resources including 4-H curriculum and 2) resources, including instructors, for staff development. Grambow stated that staff development is a high priority for ALL staff that varies from paraprofessionals, college graduates, district substitutes, etc. There are 4 scheduled trainings during the school year: August, October, January, & March. This past October was structured as a mini-conference and Neenah afterschool staff was invited to attend.

Teuteberg shared that since he is in multiple sites throughout the county, he is able to connect with the other districts to share ideas, collaborate with programming, etc.

Thompson reported on developing Youth Councils at Gegan Elementary with the 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders and at Maplewood Middle school. The Youth Council is based on a student council model with it starting as being open to ANY student who is interested. The program may move to an application process to “target” youth with leadership skill potential.

Program is underway at Maplewood with a target date of January for Gegan to start. The middle school council is meeting every other week with about 15 students participating. Last night 10 students raked leaves at a local nursing home to get them involved in the community and to focus on service-learning projects. In December the group will be doing a challenge donation for all After School students with the Youth Council overseeing it & then planning a Holiday Celebration.

In Spring 2010, there will be an off-site Youth Leadership Conference for any youth in grades 3-8 who is interested. The conference is sponsored through an Appleton Area Community Foundation a grant. The idea is to help youth experience a conference setting to learn leadership skills, yet having it someplace where the youth can have structured free time.

**Family Living Programs, Kristi Cutts:** Money Smart Week, Wisconsin was October 10-17, 2009, part of a national program. The overall goal of Money Smart Week is to improve financial literacy. The primary partners for the event were Oshkosh Library, FISC, United Way of Oshkosh and the Fox Cities and UW-Extension. Throughout the week over 40 workshops were attended by 507 participants from throughout the county.

Cutts shared a PowerPoint that highlighted many Money Smart Week events. She has also received positive feedback from collaborating partners and agencies and is planning on participating again in 2010.

**University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee**  
**Thursday, November 19, 2009**  
**James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room**

**Committee Chair Report – Tom Widener:**

**Wisconsin Library Association Library Conference:** Widener attended the conference as a library trustee. The conference was in Appleton. Widener's main role is to talk with architects with current trends being the library as a Community Center, having a separate Teen Room, having a "Gaming" area which could take on an intergenerational aspect, and a senior area.

There was discussion regarding intellectual freedom and where some books should be located. The library needs to have a system in place that's fair and consistent for all.

**UW-Fox Valley Update – Tom Widener:** Communication Arts Center is open and the facility has been well received. Work continues on the other construction projects. The number of students is up from the past year. Chancellor has cut \$500,000 from the Library budget and is figuring out what needs to be done.

**UW-Extension – Administration, Chris Kniep:**

**2009 Budget Up-date:** Shared 2009 budget-to-date. Will be okay with the wages & fringes; very close with travel lines. However, the bottom budget line will be met.

**UWEX Staff/Office Updates:** Shared a listing of 2010 Extension Committee dates. The October date overlaps with a UWEX statewide conference that all educators need to attend. A decision to change or cancel the meeting will be determined after the Spring Elections.

Kniep thanked the committee for their support of the department budget and for Neiswender for attending the budget hearings for her that day.

Thanks to the Menasha 4-H youth who led the Pledge of Allegiance at the County Board budget meeting.

Kniep shared that Chancellor Wilson is a finalist for the position of President of Morgan State University in Maryland.

Dean Rick Klemme has requested each county to contact state officials on the financial education UWEX is doing during these the hard economic times. Widener has requested a copy of the information for the committee &/or legislative committee.

Furloughs for state employees include the Friday after thanksgiving, Monday after New Years. Kniep has talked with Mark Harris about these dates and staffing for the Monday after New Years will be county paid educators and support staff.

**Comments by Committee Members:** Barker is looking for part-time workers for the 2010 Census. She also asked if there is any follow-up from the youth who attend County Government Days organized by the Oshkosh Legion. No one was aware of any follow-up.

Next meeting is Thursday, December 17, 2009 at 9:00a.m.

Meeting adjourned by Barker/Locke at 10:22a.m. Motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

René L. Mehlberg, Recording Secretary