

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, March 20, 2014
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Nancy Barker, Guy Hegg, Susan Locke, Tom Snider, Tom Widener

UW-Extension Staff: Kristi Cutts, Catherine Neiswender, Kim Miller, Chris Kniep

Meeting called to order at 9:00a.m. by Chair Nancy Barker.

Comments from the Public related to items on the agenda - none

Approval of Minutes: Hegg moved to approve the January 16, 2014 minutes. Snider seconded. Motion carried. Hegg moved, Snider second to edit the December 2013 meeting minutes that had been approved at the January 16th 2014 meeting. Change “Supervisor Hegg left the meeting at 10:50 a.m.” to “Supervisor Hegg excused himself @ 10:50 to bring his daughter to the dentist to get her wisdom teeth removed.” Motion carried.

Action Item: Motion by Snider, second by Hegg to approve the 2013 Budget Transfer of \$90 from Office budget to Travel Budget. Motion passed 5-0.

Program Reports:

Family Living Educator: Widener and the Committee recognized Cutts for the Governor’s Award for Financial Literacy she received and for the extensive work she has done in financial literacy. Widener had shared this news with the County board at the March 11th Special Orders meeting.

Cutts and Kniep reported on “The Money Conference” scheduled for April 5th at West High School in Oshkosh. Cutts shared program highlights, sponsorships and copies of the promotional material. Kniep distributed copies of the 2013 conference evaluation and shared evaluation plans for 2014. This event is part of Money Smart Week.

A Landlord Education series is being piloted by Kniep and Cutts this spring . Kniep shared the history of this effort and how it builds on 10+ years of Rent Smart programming, that focuses on tenant education. The series is a collaborative effort with the City of Oshkosh, the Housing Authority, Landlord Association and the Housing Coalition. The first session will be held April 12th at the Coughlin Building.

Community Resource Development: Neiswender reported on current Sustainability efforts, including a visit by Torbjon Lahti, founder and president of the Sustainable Sweden Association scheduled for April. Mr. Lahti will visit sites in WI that have focused on sustainability efforts. A public event is scheduled for Monday April 28th at UW-Fox Valley’s Communication Arts Center. Neiswender will be involved in area wellness fairs this spring that highlight UW-Extension’s work in sustainability.

Horticulture: Miller presented additional information on Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) work, building on the presentation she gave at the March 11th Special Orders meeting. She is working with the Facilities Department on a grant they have received to conduct an inventory of trees on all county properties, provide staff training and develop a management plan. Questions regarding combining facilities and parks dept. efforts regarding EAB were discussed. Municipalities in the county are dealing with EAB individually. The committee recommends additional PR information and a coordinated effort by county departments. They asked that Mark Harris, Rob Way and Mike Elders be invited to the next committee meeting to discuss dealing with EAB.

Miller is also working with the Fox Valley Sustainability group, the community gardens program and Master Gardeners. Widener asked for assistance from the Master Gardeners for the Neenah Library.

Committee Chair Report: Nancy Barker shared the Fair Board is busy with plans for the 2014 fair, with much work to be done before August.

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UW-Extension – Administration Kniep shared information on:

Winnefox Mailing: no questions from the committee regarding the report.

Staff Up-dates:

- Kim Miller received a DNR award for her partnership with UWEX on forestry work.
- Table of Organizations – Kniep reviewed chart that had been mailed to committee members in response to questions at the January meeting.

Scholarship Program: applications are coming in to the County Clerk's Office and will be reviewed by faculty at UW-Fox.

Hiring Processess:

4-H Youth Development Position: Listening session was held on March 17th with 16 4-H leaders and members in attendance. The Visioning Session will be held March 24th. Committee members have been invited to attend.

Agriculture Position: Kniep is working with UW-Extension Administration regarding the hiring process. It will also include a Visioning Session. Widener questioned the need for the position. Barker strongly supports the need for this position.

WNEP Coordinator Position: This position has been posted, with interviews scheduled for May 28th.

UWEX Up-dates – Department Activities:

- **WACEC** - Kniep shared information on the Regional WACEC meeting held May 16th in Manitowoc and the state WACEC meeting scheduled for June 24-25 in Eau Claire. Registration for these events will occur after the April elections.
- **Garage** – Kniep continues to work with Facilities on the garage.
- **County Board Presentation** – Kniep contacted County Board Chair David Albrecht about a presentation to the full board at the March Special Orders Meeting. Due to the cancellation of the January meeting, this request has been held over. Widener asked that the office do a practice session with the committee.

Comments by Committee Members:

- Hegg again requested that the flags in front of the Coughlin Building be better maintained. Hegg also asked if action had been taking on equipping all meeting rooms with flashing lights connected to the fire alarm system. Kniep will follow up with Mike Elders on these two items.
- Hegg shared information on the Menasha World Language Program referendum

Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for April 17th, 2014, 9:00 a.m.

Snider motioned to adjourn; seconded by Hegg. Motion carried.

Adjourned: 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Chris Kniep, Recording Secretary