

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, May 23, 2013
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Tom Widener, Nancy Barker, Susan Locke & Tom Snider.

UW-Extension Staff: Chris Kniep, Paula Hella, Nick Schneider, Michelle Peplow & Kim Miller.

Others Present: Jeff Gilderson-Duwe – Oshkosh Public Library, Vicki Lenz – Elisha D. Smith Public Library (Menasha), Julie Stobbe – Carter Memorial Library (Omro), Mark Arend – Winnefox Library System, Holly Selwitschka – Winneconne Public Library, Gretchen Raab – Neenah Public Library & Mike Norton– Public.

Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair Nancy Barker.

Motion to approve March 21st, 2013 meeting minutes by Tom Snider/ Tom Widener. Motion carried 4-0.

UW-Extension – Administration:

County Board Scholarship program

Chris Kniep stated that the program had 23 participants that represented four different school districts. The County Clerk is handling the correspondence and certificates.

Storage Building

The investigation of options for the garage revamping has ended. The Parks Department found that their building codes were being met after reorganizing staff and further research on the subject. The offsite storage location of the Fair and UWEX materials will be based on the nature of the material and the space available in the existing structure.

Staff Updates

Chris Kniep introduced new UWEX staff Michelle Peplow and Tyler Theyerl and stated that the UWEX is currently interviewing for summer VISTA positions. Also that Kim Biedermann is finishing her last week at UWEX next week. Chris Kniep left the meeting.

Program Reports including 2014 proposals:

Winnefox Library

Jeff Gilderson-Duwe, Director of Oshkosh Public Library, distributed the “Faces of Winnebago County Libraries” booklet. Members from several libraries presented highlights of how the library’s programs and building spaces have enriched people in the community.

Budget Proposals

Jeff Gilderson-Duwe distributed the budget proposals to the committee. Tom Widener asked about the eight percent drop in circulation at the Oshkosh Public Library that was written in the proposal.

Moved to endorse the 2013 Library Levy requests by Tom Widener/Susan Locke. Motion carried 4-0.

Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program

Paula Hella, WNEP coordinator, distributed highlights of the WNEP Fiscal Year. She asked for continued support to provide nutrition education to the counties.

Moved to approve the request for WNEP to use Winnebago County facilities by Tom Widener/Tom Snider. Motion carried 4-0.

UWEX Updates- Department Activities:

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Nick Schneider, UWEX Agricultural Agent, presented the Dairy Breakfast on the Farm event taking place on June 8th. Also how the contact list for relevant crop information has expanded to almost 100 contacts.

Kim Miller, UWEX Horticulture Educator, presented the success of the fall workshops, and how other counties have emulated the way to run classes off of the UWEX example.

Committee Chair Report – Nancy Barker:

State WACEC Meeting

Meeting was not worth the time of committee board to attend. They will discuss who will benefit the most to send next year.

Comments from the Public related to items on the Agenda

Mike Norton asked about the Community Garden plot issue of how the UWEX contract with the DNR land is finished at the end of this year.

Comments by Committee Members

Committee reviewed email and resolution from Guy Hegg. They stated that the issue brought up by Hegg has already been resolved in the past. Could not take any vote today. Tom Widener moved that they would be done looking at the resolution. No second. Discussion ended.

Next meeting is June 20th, 2013.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Tom Widener/Tom Snider at 2:43 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Michelle Peplow, Recording Secretary