

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, June 20, 2013
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Nancy Barker, Guy Hegg, Tom Widener & Tom Snider (arrived at 9:15 a.m.)

UW-Extension Staff: Chris Kniep, Nick Schneider, Kristi Cutts, Catherine Neiswender, Leonard Polzin, Melody Piper and Ashley Sinks (Intern)

Others Present: Joe Maehl - Public.

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

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

Motion to approve the May 23rd, 2013 meeting minutes: Tom Widener/Guy Hegg. Motion carried 2-1, 1 abstention.

Program Reports:

Community Resource Development: Catherine Neiswender reported the Airport Study is now completed. She has been selected to share the results at two national conferences.

Kim Biedermann and Catherine finished the survey for the City of Oshkosh Business Improvement District (BID) committee, and shared some of the findings of that work. Kim finished her assignment in our office in May. Jessica Beckendorf will be working the staff at 30% time, as Catherine continues working as North Central Region Intern.

Family Living: Kristi Cutts, spoke about the success of the 2013 Money Conference, April 20th at Oshkosh West High School. One hundred forty nine people attended, the conference, 130 people had pre-registered for the event. This was the first year for Oshkosh to host the conference. Plans are already in the process for the 2014 Money Conference.

Kristi and Chris Kniep will be teaching, a Rent Smart Train the Trainer workshop on Tuesday, June 25th.

Chris Kniep shared a demonstration from the current Food Preservation series that she and Kristi are offering. The series is focusing on up-to-date methods of preserving foods safely. Currently Oshkosh and Neenah are the sites for the workshops. The series started June 3rd and will continue through August.

Chris reported on the HCE Spring Banquet and the accomplishments of the members in area communities (Wisconsin Bookworms™, Stitches of Love). This year the club's \$500 dollar scholarship went to Alana Blechl (Neenah).

Youth and Science: Leonard Polzin introduced Ashley Sinks one of the summer AmeriCorps/Vista volunteers. Ashley will be working on summer camps and video technology, updating 4-H through social media. Ben Irvin and Teal Kampe are the other two AmeriCorps/Vista volunteers for the summer.

Leonard reported the success of the June Dairy Breakfast. Over 2,000 people were in attendance, including 50 volunteers for the youth education portion of the event. There were several educational activities for youth.

Marcus Krentz participated in Badger Dairy Camp, and Area Science Day in Shawano and placed 7th and will now go on to the state completion July 22, at Marshfield.

Leonard is currently working on the Science and Lego® Robotic summer camps.

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, June 20, 2013
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Committee Chair Report- Nancy Barker, reported on the county scholarships that were presented at the County Board meeting. Committee members would like to have recipients share more information at the presentation and would like publicity about the program. Chris will forward those requests on to the county clerk's office.

Winnebago County Fair starts August 5th. Fair signs and brochures are available at the JP Coughlin if interested in taking some.

Nancy made note of the 1920's map hanging in the hallway of the Coughlin building. The Neenah Historical Society donated the map.

UW-Extension – Administration

County Board Scholarship - Chris attended the presentation and noted the gratitude of recipients and their parents.

Storage Building Up Date - Committee discussed the resolution that had been discussed at the county board meeting that has been referred to the Facilities Committee. Chris reviewed the information she shared regarding the storage needs at the last committee meeting and will send copies to committee members. Committee members requested that Rob Way, Tom Egan and Mike Elders attend the next committee meeting to discuss storage plans.

Staff Updates - Rene Mehlberg is currently on FMLA until at least August 12. Chris is looking into getting a summer back-fill person to cover the time and is working with the 4-H Board. The three Americorps/Vista members have started and Jessica Beckendorf is currently working in both the Outagamie and Winnebago County offices.

Nick Schneider- gave short summary of the success of Breakfast on the Farm, and all the help he received from other county agencies, and volunteers.

Comments From the Public: Joe Maehl commented on all the hard and good work the UW Education, Extension and Agriculture committee has done to make credits earned at the two year colleges count toward credits in the four year colleges. He stated it all started with this committee. Joe believes more should be done to encourage students to start their degree at the two-year campuses.

Committee member Hegg shared his views on how committee meetings should be scheduled.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Guy Hegg/Tom Weidner at 10:51 a.m. Motion carried. 4-0.