

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, September 20, 2012
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Nancy Barker, Guy Hegg, Susan Locke, Tom Widener, and James Englebert.

UW-Extension Staff: Chris Kniep, Melody Piper, Catherine Neiswender, Kim Biedermann, Kristi Cutts and Courtney Lemke.

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 August 16, 2012 meeting minutes: Committee member Guy Hegg requested the minutes from August 16, 2012 be amended to read “is Winnebago County UW-Extension involved in facilitating the Transportation Committee meeting” **Motion** by Englebert/Widener to approve as revised. Motion carried.

Program Reports

Community Resource and Development Program:

Catherine Neiswender and Kim Biedermann.

Catherine and Kim presented the “star model” they use when working with communities on economic development, modeling some of the activities used with groups. Kim is currently using this model with the City of Oshkosh as they explore interest in BID districts. Catherine and Kim highlighted some of the work they are currently doing with communities and groups. Catherine is updating the airport study, which will be shared with the County Board.

Family Living Program:

Chris Kniep and Kristi Cutts shared receiving letters from Governor Scott Walker commending them on their educational programming on Rent Smart at the National Institute for Financial and Economic literacy (NIFEL).

Chris announced to the committee they will be part of a team receiving National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS) Housing Award for the work they have done with the Rent Smart/Affordable Housing education. Kristi handed out a summary of the action research she conducted phone with past participants of the Rent Smart Workshop. The majority of participants stated the information they received at the training was very helpful when renting their apartment. Chris shared the finding of the survey done of Rent Smart trainers, highlighting how the curriculum is used in other communities/counties. Chris added they were interviewed by the Milwaukee Journal about current issues people are facing with renting apartments.

Committee Chair Report – Nancy Barker

UW-Fox Up-date- Nancy Barker & Tom Widener: Highlighted the dedication of the new Engineering Building held at UW Fox. Committee discussed varying county support for UW Fox.

Storage Space up-date:

Mike Elders has budgeted money in the departments 2013 budget for trailers to store the animal pens and to improve the storage building. The county board approved the architect study of the garage at Sunnyview Expo.

UW-Extension – Administration

WACEC Registration: Nancy Barker and Susan Locke will be attending the meeting, on October 19th.

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UWEX Up-Dates & Department Activities

Chris highlighted some up-coming events in the department:

Today (Sept. 20) a pruning workshop is being held

October 10th, Kayla Oberstadt and Leonard Polzin will be hosting National Science Day

René Mehlberg is receiving the Chancellor Team Award for “Youth and Leadership”

Jim Barthel former 4-H Educator will be inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame October 12th.

Staff Up-dates

Melody Piper will be recording the minutes for the committee and focusing on administrative work. Katie will be working with the 4-H program

Comments by Committee Members:

Tom Widener would like to take 15 minutes at the next committee meeting to review the role of Extension Educators in the county.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 am by Englebert/Widener. Motion carried 4-0 (Committee Member Hegg dismissed himself at 10:30 am)

Respectfully Submitted by:
Melody Piper Support Staff