

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, December 15, 2022
James P. Coughlin Center - Volunteer Room
& Zoom Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Steve Binder, Tom Borchart, Karen D. Powers, and Kay Horan (via zoom).

Members Absent: Doug Zellmer.

Extension Winnebago County Staff: Chris Viau, Mia Ljung, Dana Berger, Sarah Thompson, Jody Bezio, and Amy Hendrickson.

Others Present: Mike Norton (Winnebago County Board Supervisor).

Meeting Called to Order at 9:04 a.m. by Steve Binder.

Comments from the Public Related to Items on the Agenda/Requests to Add Items to the Next Agenda: None.

Approval of Minutes: Borchart moved to approve the 11/17/2022 minutes, second by Powers. Motion carried 4-0.

Safety Share – Tom Borchart: Borchart noted to clear snow from vehicles, leave early, and drive appropriately.

Committee Chair Report: Binder wished happy holidays for everyone.

Winnebago County Fair Association – Bezio distributed the most recent Winnebago County Fair Association Financial Report. The Fair has had surplus for the past few years after multiple years of debt. They are focusing on creating an enticing lineup for patrons while also building up their “rainy day fund” to cover expenses when weather impacts income. Bezio reviewed the categories and examples of revenues and expenses. Discussion ensued.

UW Division of Extension Program or Educator Reports and Updates:

- **Community Development –** Ljung distributed and reviewed her program updates, including activities with Color Bold Business Association, Community Navigator Program, Shop BIPOC, Fast Pitch, grant-finding workshops, and Maximizing Success with Entrepreneurs of Color in Your Community. It was suggested that Horan connect Ljung and Jared Longsine (chair of the Diversity Affairs Commission) for future collaboration.

Extension Administration and Department Reports – Chris Viau:

- **Facility Updates:** None discussed.
- **Staff and Department Updates:** Increased use of remote work amongst staff for adverse weather, illness, and accommodating health accommodations. Kevin Jareck will transition into the Regional Crops & Soils Educator role January 17th. The Regional Dairy Educator position is expected to be posted in January with implementation as soon as applicable. The Health & Well-being Educator is expected to be posted in January with implementation for March/April. Horan inquired regarding DAC support until the HWB Educator is on board. Viau directed requests for assistance to be emailed to Viau, Bezio, Hendrickson, and Rolph.
- **Area/Region/State Updates:** None discussed.

Announcing Upcoming Extension Events at County Board Meeting Discussion: Registration is open for Winnebago County employees to request Discover 4-H boxes. Berger will send information to Binder for sharing.

Scholarship Task Force Updates: Powers made multiple attempts to reach Mary-Ann Mueller at Corp. Counsel to add this topic back on the agenda. They are looking into whether and when it can be brought back up to the board.

Comments by Committee Members: Horan noted a resolution on the next County Board meeting agenda to change the DAC’s committee of jurisdiction from the Extension Committee to the County Board. Comments ensued.

Next Meeting: Next regular committee meeting will be held at 9:00am on Thursday, January 19, 2023.

Adjourned: Borchart moved to adjourn at 10:40 a.m.; seconded by Powers. Motion carried 4–0.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Hendrickson