

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, December 16, 2010
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Tom Widener, Susan Locke, Nancy Barker, and Guy Hegg, Dave Albrecht (Board Chair)

UW-Extension Staff: Nick Schneider, Dan Teuteberg, Kristi Cutts, Chris Kniep and Melody Piper

Others Present: Jerry Finch – District 28 Supervisor, Ann Marshall – League of Women Voters, Tom Egan – Fair Association

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. By Chair Tom Widener.

Committee Chair Tom Widener requested a moment of silence for John Reinert (committee member) that passed away in November, Tom spoke on John's life, dedication and his funeral service.

Chairman Albrecht is recommending James Englebert, Menasha to fill this position.

Comments from the Public related to items on the Agenda: None

Motion to approve November 18, 2010 meeting minutes by Nancy Barker, seconded by Susan Locke. Motion carried 4-0.

Fair Association – Tom Egan: Tom distributed copies of the 2010 Fair Association financial statement. Tom reported that the report does not include expenses related to the facility use as they have yet to receive a bill from the Park's Department. To cover 2010 costs, the Fair Association accessed monies in their reserve funds. The fair board is discussing ways to reduce costs for future fairs. Due to the double booking of the Expo Grounds, the fair was rescheduled for August 2-7.

Committee Chair Report, Tom Widener:

UW Fox Valley Update: The 1655 Building has received all approvals. Jim Perry will be providing an up-date on the project at the December County Board Meeting.

County Board Scholarship: the 2011 County Budget includes \$7,000 of new money for the scholarship program. The existing resolution approved by the County Board in 2008 provides for 9, \$1,000 Scholarships. The committee needs to submit to the full county board a recommendation regarding the number of scholarships for 2011. County Board member Jerry Finch presented background on the scholarship program. Options and concerns discussed included:

- Seven \$1,000 scholarship for 2011
- Nine \$1,000 scholarship for 2011, drawing \$2,000 from the reserves
- Promotion of the scholarship program
- Rate of applications/selection of scholarships
- Review criteria
- Timeline for distribution of 2011 materials

Dave Albrecht made a motion to continue with the 9 original scholarships. Seconded by Nancy Barker. Motion carried 4-1. Guy Hegg cast the dissenting vote. Tom Widener will get the resolution to the county board for the January meeting.

Reports: Water Basin Specialist – Chad Cook: Provided materials detailing his position and geographical area of work. Chad explained the overall purpose of the Water Basin Specialist position in supporting the work of many state and county agencies. His role is to educate and support groups focusing on the protection of Wisconsin waterways. He does not enforce the states regulations. He works closely with Catherine Neiswender, the Community, Resource and Development Educator, DNR, and Winnebago County Land & Water. Chad also provided an overview of the Woodland Owner work he is doing.

Family Living Programs – Kristi Cutts and Chris Kniep: Chris and Kristi shared copies of recently

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released state Family Living Programs materials, highlighting the four key areas Family Living and WNEP is working on in Winnebago County and Wisconsin. They also shared an overview of the Winnebago County Family Living Programs and their focus areas. Kristi highlighted her work in housing and financial management. She will be partnering with Fr. Carr's Place 2B on several projects in 2011. Kristi is currently piloting a money management with parents of Head Start that is featured in one of the state publications. Chris's main focuses are family and community capacity building. Highlighting efforts in this area from 2010, Chris described her work with Mercy Medical Volunteers and Auxiliary to help bridge the two groups and her partnership with the Kinship program to support Grandparents Raising Grandchildren. Chris and Kristi also teach a monthly workshop at the Winnebago County Jail on a variety of subjects from Stress Management, Money, Relationships and Making Better Decisions. They recently learned that this work has led to contracting a half-time person to education position at the County Jail.

UW-Extension – Administration, Chris Kniep:

2010 Budget up date: Chris anticipated surplus dollars in salaries and fringe benefits but being close in operating expenses. Outstanding income includes reimbursement for the Grandparent Support Group Grant and the Sustainability workshops. Outstanding expenses include purchase of a replacement laptops, electronic voting clickers, and sustainability workshop support

UWEX Staff/Office Updates:

- The office is fully staff.
- Ray Cross has been confirmed by the Board of Regent as the new UW-Extension/UW Colleges Chancellor replacing, David Wilson. He will be starting in February. Interim Chancellor Ray Van Kekerix will be back-filling the vacant Vice Chancellor/Provost position for an interim basis.
- The State WACEC meeting is March 28th – March 30th in Madison and the District meeting will be May 13th in Manitowoc.
- 2011 Meeting Dates – committee meetings will remain the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Comments by Committee Members:

Next meeting is Thursday, January 20, 2011, at 9:00a.m.

Meeting adjourned by Guy Hegg seconded by, Dave Albrecht at 11:10 a.m. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by: Melody Piper, Recording Secretary