

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, January 19th, 2017
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Tom Snider, Julie Gordon, Al Long, and George Scherck.

UW-Extension Staff: Chris Kniep, Kim Miller, Sarah Thompson, Mandi Dornfeld, Kris Soper, Chad Cook, Ashley Rolph, Carol Hollmaier, and Amy Timm.

Others Present: None.

Meeting called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Tom Snider.

Comments from the Public related to items on the agenda: None.

Approval of Minutes: Gordon moved to approve the 12/15/2016 minutes; seconded by Long. Motion carried **4-0**.

Program Reports:

Civil Rights Review and Plans: Kniep provided a brief explanation of what the Civil Rights Review Day entailed and the working definition of “parity”. Staff used the PowerPoint, prepared for the Civil Rights Review Day, to provide an overview of the information the review team looks for and how the office responded. Kniep briefly reviewed the demographic slides regarding gender, age, disability, income, race, and ethnicity in Winnebago County. It serves as the background for the review and programming UWEX does. Staff highlighted efforts related to “protected groups” and “traditionally underserved audiences” – the two focus areas of a Civil Rights Review. Kniep shared examples of questions the review committee asked and how UWEX staff responded. Given the population and resources in Winnebago County, UWEX staff spend a lot of time building relationships with organizations who serve protected classes and underserved audiences. UWEX staff also partner with staff from other counties on outreach efforts to populations that aren’t present or common in Winnebago County, bringing back useful information. UWEX staff members take continuing education to keep abreast of changes, new research, and outreach efforts. UWEX chooses locations for delivering programs based on inclusivity considerations. A requirement following the review was to create an Action Plan for continued efforts to reach these audiences. The Action Plan was submitted, reviewed by the visiting review team, and is in the process of being updated based on their suggestions. Snider and Scherck expressed appreciation for the work put into making the review day a success.

Committee Chair Report: Snider did not have any updates to share.

UW-Extension – Administration:

Staff Updates: Kniep shared that Kayla Oberstadt has accepted a position with the State 4-H Office in Ohio. Catherine Neiswender has begun her Interim Associate Program Director and Program Liaison position for CNRED at the state level. Both Oberstadt’s full-time position and Catherine Neiswender’s 50% backfill position are in the queue. These interim positions will be short-term appointments due to the nEXT Generation changes that are coming. The FoodWise Coordinator position is still currently being performed by Christi Beilfuss (Waupaca County), and work is being done to draft a FoodWise position that focuses on food policy at the community level.

Department Activities: Oberstadt is currently in Washington D.C. with 4-H delegates for the Presidential Inauguration. Miller is coordinating the completion of the 2016 Annual Review. The County Board Scholarship materials have been shared with the County Board.

nEXT Generation: No additional updates.

2017 Meeting Dates: A final draft of the 2017 meeting dates is being updated based on staff changes.

Comments by Committee Members: None.

Next Meeting: Next regular committee meeting will be held Thursday, February 16th, 2017.

Adjourned: Scherck moved to adjourn; seconded by Gordon. Motion carried **4-0**, 10:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Amy Timm