

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, June 16th, 2016
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Tom Snider, George Scherck, Alvin Long, and Nancy Barker.

UW-Extension Staff: Chris Kniep, Kayla Oberstadt, Allison Austin, and Amy Timm.

Others Present: Jeff Gilderson-Duwe, Nicole Hardina-Wilhelm, Julie Stobbe, Holly Selwitschka, and Mark Arend.

Meeting called to order at 8:59 a.m. by Tom Snider.

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

Approval of Minutes: Scherck moved to approve the 5/19/ 2016 minutes; seconded by Snider. Motion carried **4-0**.

Program Reports:

Winnefox Library: Libraries are seeing decreased foot-traffic into the libraries and decreased check-out of physical materials and an increase in use of digital materials. Gilderson-Duwe and library representatives delivered presentations highlighting work each of the public libraries has been doing within the Winnefox Library system.

Oshkosh Public Library - Gilderson-Duwe shared their vision, "A Library in Every Life by 2025" to characterize the benefit of library programs and resources to the community. Highlights of the Oshkosh Public Library were the Oshkosh History Tour and the High Flyers program.

Neenah Public Library - Hardina-Wilhelm shared their involvement with the Master Gardener program, Memory Cafes, Legal Clinics, and Suburban Homesteading. Overall, they are seeing a trend toward becoming a community center through their implementation of interactive programs, such as the puzzle, coloring, and chess stations. Over 1,600 children are registered for their Summer Reading Program. Neenah Public Library plans to conduct a community needs assessment to further explore how to best serve their community.

Carter Memorial Library (Omro) - Stobbe recognized the Master Gardeners for their work outside the library. Carter Memorial Library had an Open House for the community, inviting them to learn more about the resources available to them from their library. Their Community Room has been very successful in bringing in new groups and activities. Carter Memorial Library also partnered with the public school for their "Battle of the Books" activity.

Winneconne Public Library - Selwitschka shared about the library's involvement with the Winneconne public school, serving about 150 students on a monthly basis. The Winneconne Public Library has focused on trying to make the environment comfortable, welcoming, and individualized for their patrons. They also have a tech service available to help individuals with their resumes. A main highlight is that their programs bring people together.

Arend summarized that the goal of Winnefox is to help the public libraries serve their communities as best they can.

Action Item – 2017 Winnefox Library Proposal: Gilderson-Duwe distributed the 2017 budget proposal. Gilderson-Duwe explained current statutes for funding and reimbursement of costs associated with public library systems. Gilderson-Duwe reviewed the monetary figures in the 2017 budget proposal. Scherck moved to accept the 2017 Winnefox Library Proposal as presented and forward it to the County Executive; Barker seconded; motion carried 4-0.

4-H Youth Development Programs: Oberstadt announced that the 4-H Youth Development program exceeded their goal to increase membership by 10% and currently have 515 members and 194 adult leaders. It is Winnebago County 4-H's turn for interstate travel this year, so there will be a lot of promotion and fundraising. Summer Camp is currently full with a waiting list. There is a great deal of training and commitment that has gone into training the camp counselors to ensure they are ready. Part of the Healthy Living Initiative with 4-H Youth Development is recruiting youth to help deliver and develop Healthy Living programs. Oberstadt gave an update on the Workforce Readiness Initiative. As an example of the progress, the Goat Project invited a veterinarian to present at one of their monthly meetings and will tour a goat milking facility at their next meeting. This is an example of helping youth explore various career path opportunities.

Committee Chair Report: Snider turned the floor over to Kniep.

UW-Extension – Administration:

nEXT Generation: Kniep reviewed the June 2nd Executive Sponsor Committee Visit at UW-Fox Valley. Scherck moved that the committee remain supportive but express that the committee is concerned with the 4-county configuration and specify why; Snider seconded; motion carried 4-0. Kniep and Snider will meet to draft a proposal.

WACEC State Meeting: The 2016 WACEC meeting is 6/20/2016 and 6/21/2016 in Wausau. Snider will contact Stormy Cooley about attending the first day. Kniep will be attending.

Staff Updates: Kniep reviewed that the WNEP Coordinator position is still open. Michelle Peplow left her Support Staff Secretary position June 3rd for a new position with UW-Oshkosh. The position has been posted and applications have been reviewed. Interviews will be conducted July 13th.

Department Activities: Kniep shared that the Rain Garden is being planted today. Breakfast on the Farm was held on Saturday, June 11th and was a success. Sarah Thompson is involved with Lego Camps. Mandi Dornfeld is involved in Trauma-Informed Care surveys. Kniep urged the committee members to participate if they receive them.

Comments by Committee Members: Barker encouraged the committee to honor Joe Maehl for his contributions to UW-Extension, UW-Fox and the County Fair.

Next Meeting: Next regular committee meeting will be held Thursday, July 21st, 2016.

Adjourned: Long moved to adjourn; seconded by Scherck. Motion carried **3-0**, 11:01 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Timm