

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, August 16th, 2018
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Tom Snider, Steve Binder, Mike Brunn, Tom Borchart, and Karen D. Powers.

UW-Extension Staff: Catherine Neiswender, Jody Bezio, Mandi Dornfeld, Kris Soper, Ashley Rolph, and Amy Hendrickson.

Others Present: None.

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Tom Snider.

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

Approval of Minutes: Binder moved to approve the 7/19/2018 minutes; seconded by Borchart. Motion carried **5-0**.

Program Reports:

Human Development and Relationships: Dornfeld introduced herself and her updated title. Dornfeld distributed suicide prevention and *Sources of Strength* data and materials. Rates of suicide completion and ideation are significantly higher in our tri-state area (Winnebago, Outagamie, and Calumet counties) compared to the rest of the state. *Sources of Strength* aims to create self-healing communities through various suicide prevention strategies. Dornfeld reviewed the suicide prevention strategies her various programming is involved in: an online *Money Matters* course and the *Rent Smart* workshops strengthen economic supports, *Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group* promotes connectedness, *Taking Care of You* facilitator workshops trains other professionals to teach coping and problem-solving skills, and *ACE Interface* trainings identify and support people at risk. Dornfeld has been invited to become part of a team completing a qualitative research study to identify why suicide rates in this area are so high. This is a 2-year project. Dornfeld explained the implementation of this program in various schools in the area. Committee members and Dornfeld discussed various observations and questions regarding suicide in our area. Dornfeld invited committee members to attend the *Child Data Walk* on August 28th at Neenah Library to learn more about the state of children in Winnebago County.

FoodWise: Soper distributed a flyer for her upcoming *Grocery Store Tours* in Oshkosh. This program involves touring a grocery store with participants while teaching how to save money, choose healthy and available options, and compare unit prices. At the end of the tour, participants receive a reusable grocery bag and a \$10 gift card sponsored by Walmart. This event has been receiving a lot of positive feedback and a high attendance rate. Additionally, Soper works with schools that have at least 50% of their students on free or reduced lunch and area food pantries. Per Powers' request, Soper agreed to contact Amber Canto with the state office regarding stores not accepting FoodShare for spices.

Office Outreach and Social Media: Rolph shared some of the efforts our office has made to make the Winnebago County UW-Extension online presence more impactful and current. The office has partnered to update the pages on the Winnebago County UW-Extension (UWEX) Website. The website contains numerous resources, including program area and event details, calendar of events, additional resources, and a sign-up for the monthly newsletter. Program events and relevant articles are also posted on social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter. Winnebago County UWEX and 4-H have their own Facebook pages for advertising and connecting with the community. Rolph distributed a copy of the most recent Winnebago County UWEX Newsletter highlighting what the office is up to each month. This newsletter goes out to a wide list of people via email, and people can sign up to receive the newsletter online.

Committee Chair Report: Snider had no report to share.

UW-Extension – Administration:

2019 Budget Update: Neiswender distributed and reviewed copies of the 2019 Budget Proposal with descriptions explaining the categories.

Staff Updates/Area Updates: Melissa Blade-Haight will be returning as an intern for the fall semester. Soper returned from leave this week. Our office currently does not have an Agriculture Educator, but Neiswender will be developing a job posting. If committee members have or receive any inquiries, please contact Neiswender.

Department Activities: The 2018 Winnebago County Fair has wrapped up. Staff and committee members discussed observations from this year's fair.

State Activities: None reported.

Comments by Committee Members: Binder inquired whether student orientations at schools could incorporate suicide prevention information. Dornfeld reviewed some of the resources area schools have been implementing.

Next Meeting: Next regular committee meeting will be held Thursday, September 20th, 2018.

Adjourned: Borchart moved to adjourn; seconded by Brunn. Motion carried **5-0**, 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Hendrickson