

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, August 19, 2021
James P. Coughlin Center - Room A/B

Members Present: Tom Snider, Tom Borchart, Steve Binder, Karen D. Powers, and Doug Zellmer.

Members Absent: None.

Extension Winnebago County Staff: Chris Viau, Kris Soper, Dana Berger, Mia Ljung, and Ashley Rolph.

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: Zellmer moved to approve the 7/15/2021 minutes; seconded by Binder. Motion carried 5-0.

Safety Share: Borchart encouraged participants to be aware of the flashing light stops at crosswalks. With school starting soon, there will be more kids using crosswalks.

Committee Chair Report: Snider had no report to share.

UW Division of Extension Program or Educator Reports and Updates:

Community Development – Ljung shared highlights of the Colorbold program she has been working with. Colorbold works with small business owners to help them overcome the struggles of owning a business and celebrate the successes. Recently, Ljung has been helping them with outreach on Facebook using the Facebook Live feature. Each Live showcases a different business owner of color, explaining their personal struggles and successes in owning a small business. These events have been successful for the program; the next Facebook Live is scheduled for August 31, 2021 at 1:00 pm. Colorbold is preparing for a soft launch on September 21, 2021. Ljung distributed brochures for the Homegrown curriculum – a partnership with Missouri Extension that Ljung helped get started last year. The Homegrown curriculum teaches kids and young adults about entrepreneurship. They recently partnered with the Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes. Ljung is leading the group to find strategies to increase entrepreneurship in Wisconsin. Currently, they are looking for groups that may be interested next year, targeting highschools that have business groups or clubs.

FoodWise – FoodWise collaborated with 4-H this summer for the Cloverbud Day Camp. Soper did a 45 minute demonstration on the importance of eating fruits and vegetables and read a book called “Up Down and Around”. The kids were given different shapes and sizes of various vegetables and got to “play with their food”. Soper shared pictures of what the kids made with the pieces of vegetables. Soper has been working at the Menasha Boys & Girls club and teaching the Teen Cuisine curriculum. The goal of this curriculum is to teach middle school-aged kids the importance of healthy eating and being mindful of the foods they eat. They learn how to properly cut vegetables and fruit, how to properly use a knife, and the importance of eating breakfast. Soper shared an update on the Farm Market Tours. Specialists from the state will be coming to the Oshkosh Farmers market this Saturday to record a video of her walking around the market and talking to vendors about their products. The video will be used to teach others how to do a Farmers Market Tour. Grocery store tours are starting up again. They will be conducted at stores in Menasha and Chilton. They will be doing tours in Spanish for the Spanish speaking participants. Anyone who attends the tours will get an additional \$10 to use at that store.

Extension Administration and Department Reports:

2022 Budget Update – Viau gave an update on the Extension Winnebago County budget and highlighted changes for the committee.

Facility Updates – Viau is closely monitoring the COVID-19 recommendations and changes from the CDC, state, and county with the increased spread of the Delta Variant.

Staff and Department Updates – Viau reported no significant changes. There will be a new intern starting in the fall for Human Relationships & Development programming. The Horticulture Educator position has been cancelled and not expected to be reposted until 2022.

Area/Region/State Updates – Viau shared that there are many changes occurring that affect Extension outreach in the region. Some area counties are evaluating their investments with limited budget dollars available.

Comments by Committee Members: Powers shared her experience judging barns at the Winnebago County Fair. This was her first time judging. She really enjoyed it and was very impressed with the 4-H youth and their work with the animals.

Next Meeting: Next regular committee meeting will be held Thursday, September 16, 2021.

Adjourned: Powers moved to adjourn at 10:17 a.m.; seconded by Borchart. Motion carried 5 – 0.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ashley Rolph