

University of Wisconsin Education, Extension and Agriculture Committee
Thursday, October 17th, 2019
James P. Coughlin Center – Volunteer Room

Members Present: Tom Snider, Steve Binder, and Tom Borchart.

Members Absent: Mike and Karen are excused.

UW-Extension Staff: Chris Viau, Mandi Dornfeld, Dana Berger, and Amy Hendrickson.

Others Present: Jenna Washuleski (Substance Abuse Counselor with Winnebago County), Mike Domke (Fairboard President), and Mike Norton (County Board Supervisor).

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

Comments from the Public related to items on the agenda: Snider invited Washuleski to present. Washuleski is a member of the Winnebago County Drug & Alcohol Coalition. Washuleski reviewed the goal to change the perception of Wisconsin as a drinking state and distributed a flyer for the #WEAREWISCONSIN Art Contest.

Domke gave a brief review of the 2019 Winnebago County Fair. They were able to pay off the previous \$37,000 debt and turn a \$60,000 profit this year. Social Media presence was helpful for advertising the fair and received about 9,000 "likes". The Fair Board has been petitioning local businesses for donations. The Fair Board is looking for nominations to fill open positions. December 12th is the Annual Fair Board Meeting. The board has been doing price comparisons with other county fairs to guide future pricing. The committee commended the Fair Board for their work.

Approval of Minutes: Binder moved to approve the 9/19/2019 minutes; seconded by Borchart. Motion carried 3-0.

Safety: The committee discussed ATV use on public roads. Duress buttons will be installed at the Extension office on October 24. Dornfeld is arranging basic first aid training for the office. The committee requested an invitation to the training when it is scheduled. Borchart highlighted the importance of not rushing on the roads – leave time for weather conditions, accidents, and personal scenarios that inspire people to rush. Slow down, take the time necessary, and prioritize safety over rushing.

Program Reports:

4-H Youth Development: Berger distributed an overview of recent 4-H events. Berger reported on 4-H activities at the Fair. The Diversity event drew in many people, including new families for 4-H. 13 youth exhibits went to state fair; 3 received special merit awards. Kaley Reklau is the 4-H Fall Intern for the Extension office. She will be focusing on how Extension operates its programs and services. 4-H enrollment is open now. 4-H Interstate Travel Group provides an opportunity for 4-H youth to visit and experience different states by hosing and being hosted by 4-H families in other states. 4-H Pizza Orders were due this week. Winnebago County 4-H membership has grown to 536 youth at the end of August, up from 479 when Berger joined Extension last fall. Berger is preparing for 4-H Officer Training. 4-H Skating Party is Sunday, October 27. Norton suggested getting 4-H members involved in county government. He explained the partnership between the Boys & Girls Club with the City of Oshkosh as an example. Snider shared some updates on the 4-H Endowment Fund and potential contributors. Dornfeld commended the work Berger has been doing to make 4-H more inclusive and welcoming of diverse groups.

FoodWise: Soper will reschedule to present next month.

Human Development & Relationships: Dornfeld distributed a Healthy Teen Minds flyer and reviewed the Sources of Strength program. By November 1st, 19 schools will complete the program for this season. Dornfeld announced that the Sources of Strength model will be launched into the workplace in the near future, and she is expecting to be a workforce facilitator. Snider requested Dornfeld be in contact with the Veterans Organization. Dornfeld is awaiting more information from Waupaca County regarding resources for this. Dornfeld distributed a flyer for Adult Mental Health First Aid for Snider to share with the Veterans Organization. Dornfeld distributed the Taking Care of You Facilitator Training brochure. Taking Care of You has been a very popular program, with the focus on training others to facilitate this program. Extension Winnebago County has officially hired a GRG Coordinator. Sandy Bell started last week, and her first official meeting is tonight. Dornfeld distributed a letter inviting local elected officials to attend the November GRG meeting and meal. Dornfeld explained the purpose of the support group and the typical circumstances leading to extended family members raising children in this group. Snider thanked Dornfeld for her work and invited her to present at a future County Board meeting.

Committee Chair Report: Snider introduced Mike Norton to present about the County Board scholarship.

County Board Scholarship: Norton requested support from the committee for reserving one scholarship for a non-traditional student: a non-high schooler pursuing secondary education. The County Board is trying to increase the number of scholarship applicants. Committee members discussed there may be a need to define/redefine who is a student and whether the scholarship is limited to only high school students. Committee members questioned whether one scholarship should be reserved for a specific population or if eligibility criteria should be redefined. Viau shared his observation that competition is so high for high school seniors that it would be great to have opportunities beyond the first year of college. Alternatively, it may be an opportunity to support adults returning to school. The current County Board practice allows 9 scholarships with an optional 10th. Committee members considered making the 10th automatic in order to open up another spot. The County Board Scholarship will be added to a future agenda for further discussion.

2020 Committee Meeting Schedule: The committee agreed to continue the current meeting schedule for 2020.

UW-Extension – Administration:

Staff Updates/Area Updates: Viau gave an update on the two Food Wise positions currently open in Area 10. Winnebago County will not be the home base for either position, but their talents and expertise may be utilized across counties regardless of where staff are housed. These positions are in the final stages of hiring with candidates having already been chosen. Stay tuned for the formal announcement. Carlea Liermann has been hired as the Calumet County 4-H Coordinator. She is joining Extension from the Oshkosh Boys and Girls Club. Viau initiated discussion regarding changing the name of the committee to reflect the reorganization. The current official title is UW Education, Agriculture and Extension Committee. Snider has been in communication with Catherine Neiswender and Matt Hanson. No decision made yet. Snider will continue consideration of changing the committee name to accurately reflect the work of the committee.

Department Activities: Viau is attending budget hearings for Area 10. Annual reviews for county staff are in progress. Binder advocated for erring on the side of paying staff more with their reviews due to how hard Extension staff work.

State Activities: Viau is encouraging all Extension staff to attend the All Institute/Program Meeting November 18 – 20. All costs will be covered by state. The organization doesn't meet as a whole very often, so this will be a great opportunity for staff to provide input for state/program work plans. Matthew Call is the new Director of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement for Extension. He started in spring and is now starting to tackle some of the bigger re-branding projects across the state. So far, Extension has not ordered a "cease and desist" on old branding. Staff are advised to replace as needed. Winnebago County will start identifying what needs replacing, obtaining cost estimates, and determining where costs will be allocated (state vs. county).

Comments by Extension Staff: None.

Comments by Committee Members: None.

Next Meeting: Next regular committee meeting will be held Thursday, November 21st, 2019.

Adjourned: Binder moved to adjourn; seconded by Borchardt. Motion carried 3-0, 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Hendrickson