

UW-EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

4:00 PM, Room 104

Location: Agriculture & Resource Center
227 1st Street W
Altoona WI 54720

MINUTES

Members Present: Robin Leary, Doug Kranig, Heather DeLuka, Colleen Bates

Others: Erin LaFaive, Pamela Warren-Armstrong, Joy Weisner, and Sara Novotny

Call to Order

Chair Leary called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

Review / Approval of Committee Minutes / August 31, 2016

Motion by Supervisor Bates to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion carried 4-0.

Review Bills / Discussion / August 2016

The bills were reviewed.

Public Input

No members of the public present.

Update on *nEXT* Generation Model / Discussion

Supervisor Bates reported on the information shared at the recent Wisconsin Counties Association meeting. Chancellor Sandeen and Interim Dean/Director Karl Martin were present and shared updates/information. They noted that there are plans to consolidate and share administrative duties, but no plan to reduce the number of offices in the counties. There will be a greater digital approach to sharing information with constituents but there will not be a complete loss of face to face programming. They are still working out the details on allocation of resources and are creating a committee of county executives, administrators, and county board and committee chairs. The current timeline shared stated that the decisions would be made by February of 2017, with final implementation taking place by July of 2017.

Budget Updates / Discussion - Action

Erin LaFaive, Sara Novotny, and Karen LaPage met with the Finance and Budget Committee on Friday, September 23rd and the review was positive. The process is moving forward through some changes with the new county administrator.

Sustainable Future Festival / Discussion

Attendance may have been slightly down in the morning, however, vendors, exhibitors, and speakers noted that they were always busy and speaking with participants throughout the day. The final wrap up evaluation schedule is slated to occur soon. Suggestion was made to not have the event coincide with the International Fall Festival.

Youth In Governance Update / Discussion

Supervisor LaValle of the Parks and Forest Committee requested that their committee be able to view the handbook and pass it through their committee prior to the resolution going through the county board. Their committee did pass it but has some changes to recommend in front of the board. He is proposing that mileage be provided to youth who participate in order to eliminate a possible financial barrier to participants. Additionally, he would like to see a change in required GPA. Suggestions and full resolution will appear before the county board meeting the first week in October; update to be given to Extension Education Committee at October meeting.

WNEP Educators Report / Discussion

Pamela Warren-Armstrong and Joy Weisner were present to report on educator roles and programming in the county. WNEP will soon be known as Food Wise programs. The educators program in the “in-school” setting to 1st, 3rd, and 5th graders in a number of free/reduced lunch schools in Eau Claire County, and have recently picked up Augusta and Fairchild Elementary as well. They program to 2nd and 4th graders in “after school” settings at the same sites to ensure they are increasing awareness of fresh fruits and vegetables and healthy eating across all elementary grades. They also program for adults at a variety of sites, including Bolton, Affinity, Park Towers, and the W2/F-Set program. The educators focus on helping youth try new foods, increasing their awareness of healthy foods and meals, and creating an open mind towards healthy options. Adult programming focuses on shopping for and preparing healthier meals and stretching the food dollar.

Scheduling of Future Meetings / Agenda Items

The next meeting is scheduled for October 26th at 3:30pm at the UW-Extension Office. Agenda items include updates on nEXT Generation, budget, Youth In Governance Update, office manager position update, mental health summit update, resolution for the outgoing Dean/Director of UWEX, and an educator report from the horticulture educator.

Adjourn

Chair Leary adjourned the meeting at 4:57 PM.