

Extension Education Committee Minutes

(Includes Educator Written Reports that were presented orally as attachments)

Date of Meeting: February 8, 2021

Meeting called to order by: Zastrow called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Members Present via Videoconference: Roberts, Morris

Members Present in Person: Herbst, Kannard, Zastrow

County/Extension Staff Present: Ben Wehmeier, County Administrator; Kim Buchholz, Administrative Specialist

Extension Staff Present via Videoconference: Chrissy Wen, Area Director; Lisa Krolow, FoodWise; Steve Chmielewski, Community Educator; Katelyn Broedlow, Administrative Assistant

Others Present via Videoconference: Frankie Fuller, County Board member

Certification of Open Meetings Law: The agenda with videoconference link has been duly posted and the door is open.

Public Comment: None

Roll Call (establish a quorum): Quorum present.

Approval of Agenda for Possible Rearrangement: Approved as written.

Approval of December 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes: Motion by Herbst, seconded by Kannard, to approve the December 14, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion approved.

Communications: Wen informed the committee that she has received LaVern Georgson's official retirement paperwork. Further discussions regarding the interim and future plans will be forthcoming.

Review of 2020 Departmental Budget: Committee members received a copy of the departmental budget report in their meeting packet. Wen stated that we are where we should be and should hold steady for the near future.

Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports: (Written reports attached.)

- Kara Loyd was unable to attend the meeting due to a death in her family. Her written report for December/January was included in the agenda packet. Please review and contact her with any questions.
- Steve Chmielewski provided an oral report from his written report. Please refer to his attached report for more details.
- Lisa Krolow provided an oral report from her written report. Please refer to her attached report for more details. She also reported that she has been meeting monthly through an ongoing series regarding prevention of family violence with individuals from the City of Whitewater.
- Chrissy Wen reported that she will be working with the office to keep our website updated with agriculture opportunities occurring statewide for the agriculture community in Jefferson County.

- Question was asked if the agriculture educator position would be refilled. Wen responded that the State is looking at a regional model for the position. This decision is based on budget cuts that have occurred throughout the years as well as feedback received from leaving educators. Position is looking to be more specialized rather than broad (know everything about agriculture).
- Question was also asked by Frankie Fuller as how do we encourage people to become farmers; especially smaller farms? Discussion occurred. Wen will relay the question to the agriculture institute.

Next Scheduled Meetings: March 8, April 12

Adjourn – Motion by Herbst, seconded by Kannard, to adjourn at 9:07 a.m. Motion approved.

Minutes recorded by Kim Buchholz, Administrative Specialist

Steven Chmielewski
Community Development Educator
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Division of Extension
Waukesha & Jefferson County

December 2020/January 2021

Nonprofit sector:

1. Followed up with Watertown Family Center director and chairperson to provide input and permission to be identified in an article. Using the process as a case study, we highlighted the background/need, outlined the content/delivery and shared data gathered from each component as well as outputs from applying Governance as Leadership. Meeting also held with new staff person hired for newly created position, Resource Network Coordinator, to discuss goals and to connect with community resources. Market area and community demographics were also discussed. Strategies were identified for inclusive engagement efforts for increasing diversity within participation. Connection was made with Healthy Communities Coalition out of Fort Atkinson.
2. Followed up with Healthy Communities Coalition point person Traci Wilson, Community Health Program Coordinator at Fort Health Care (FHC) to ask about what was implemented from their new strategic plan and how the process was beneficial. Successes and a testimonial shared since plan completion:
 - a. FHC started a community partner newsletter, called "Our Healthy Community". This was a goal of the strategic plan. The newsletter features information and resources for our key contacts in our community, worksites and school contacts. Resources are meant to inform and for them to share with their audiences and partners. We encourage our partners to share their opportunities with us but this has been a slow process. We expect the newsletter to evolve over time, and we hope to gain feedback from the Steering Committee when they start to meet again.
 - b. One initiative that has created new partnerships is the Virtual Mindfulness Challenge (Jan-Feb 2021), facilitated by six libraries throughout Jefferson County (Whitewater, Fort Atkinson, Johnson Creek, Watertown, Waterloo and Lake Mills). Furthermore, we were able to connect different community partners in some locations to offer additional programming related to this challenge.
 - c. Testimonial shared about Extension process: "Working with Steve and Extension through our Planning Group was an invaluable component of our strategic planning process. Steve was very good at gleaning and summarizing information obtained from our brainstorming sessions, providing us with the necessary tools and resources to get the work done, as well as guiding the group to establish a short term plan and next steps a longer term plan."
3. Engaged planning team through three meetings with Whitewater Marketing Alliance (Superintendent, City EDA, Chamber, Tourism, UW-Whitewater, Downtown Whitewater Inc., and private company). Topics worked on include:
 - December - Completed updated trade area analysis
 - January 5 - Trade area analysis presentation and discussion
 - January 19 - Resident survey results



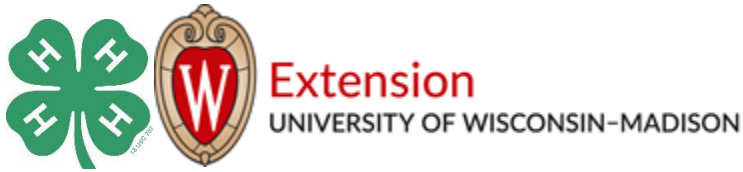
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Lisa Krolow
FoodWise Coordinator

February 2021

- FoodWise completed final interviews for a new educator on Friday 2/5. We had some good candidates. Our next steps will be to check references and run background checks. We hope to have a new educator on board by March 1st.
- FoodWise is in the process of signing new Partner Agreements with Ruby's Pantry and Geno's Pantry. Because of the current Covid situation, we are not visiting pantries but we are working with them to provide USDA nutrition education literature for pantry participants. We are also working with them to provide healthy recipe ideas for people to consider new ways to use pantry staples.
- Head Start assisted us in surveying parents regarding their availability for nutrition education. We had a very good response. We are currently reviewing and working on scheduling a series of lessons for parents of picky eaters. We are hoping to kick this off by the end of the month.



Extension Education Committee

February 2, 2021 Report

Kara Loyd – 4-H Program Educator

I continue to plan and prepare for programs coming up in 2021. I will go into detail about a few of things below.

- **Cloverbud Project Box-** The Cloverbud Project meeting was a great success on December 14th. We had five young 4-H'ers join Kim, Katelyn, and I to talk about their projects all related to space. This project meeting, the Cloverbuds also had the opportunity to learn from a physics Ph.D. student from UW-Milwaukee. The Cloverbuds had so many thoughtful and wonderful questions for our guest scientist. It was a wonderful meeting! Our next Cloverbud box is arts themed and has been delivered to our participants. The Zoom meeting will be held on March 1st.



- **Statewide Committee Work-** I have joined several statewide committees with other colleagues to create and share opportunities. We continue to work to create virtual, statewide opportunities for our members. I am particularly excited about our statewide game night which was held Friday, January 15th. This provided a great way for our youth to get to know other 4-H'ers from across the state.

Coming Up for Jefferson County 4-H-

- **Cloverbud In-A-Box-** We are going to continue with our Cloverbud Box Program. The rest of the year include plans for a natural science box and an agriculture theme box.
- **Project Boxes/Kits-** Some projects are operating independently and creating program plans for our youth. The plan is to create a project box for four main projects with enough activities monthly from January to June. Projects include STEM, foods, photography, arts and agriculture. In addition, project resources are being shared with club leaders so they have resources to engage their youth members. We are awaiting delivery of items for these kits and they will be delivered very soon. We had a total of 58 youth sign up for these kits.
- **Monthly Countywide Activities-** Each month, we are offering an activity for families to do together. Future plans include-
 - o **January-** Celebrating Local Heroes Competition (clubs are competing to see who can mail the most thank you cards to our local heroes! The Jefferson Boosters 4-H club submitted the most cards, over 30!)
- **Countywide Project Meetings-** Several projects are gearing up for in-person and virtual programming in 2021. Our Lego, Dairy, Meat Animal, Rocketry, Horse and Pony and the shooting sports projects are all working on project meetings and content for our members.