

Extension Education Committee Minutes

Date of Meeting: April 8, 2024

Call to Order: Chair Kannard called the meeting to order at 8:31 am.

Roll Call: Committee members present in person: John Kannard, Matt Foelker, Mary Roberts. Dwayne Morris was present via Zoom.

Christine Wen, Janel Heidelmeier, Jerry Wilcenski, Steve Chmielewski, Lisa Krolow, Julie Hill, Katelyn Broedlow and Meghan Splinter were present in-person. Josh Kamps was present via Zoom.

Certification of Compliance with Open Meetings Law: In compliance.

Public Comment: None.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Foelker, seconded by Roberts to approve the agenda as printed. Motion passed.

Approval of University Extension Education Committee Minutes from March 11, 2024: Motion by Foelker, seconded by Roberts, to approve the minutes as printed. Motion passed.

Communications: None.

Review of 2024 Departmental Budget: Wen stated we are right on target for this time of the year.

Extension Office Marketing Plan: Chmielewski stated the office team has met around 5 times to establish goals. Chmielewski listed the Extension Office's main three goals created by the office team along with the tactics that the office will use to meet these goals.

Discussion of Monthly Educator Reports:

Committee members received the Extension March 2024 written report in their agenda packets.

Steve Chmielewski, Community Development Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- The Broadband Workshop in Waterloo was rescheduled for May 29.
- Planning with Main St, Jefferson and Fort Atkinson Chambers of Commerce to provide a workshop on storefront designs to create a more positive perception with commercial space. This program is planned for May 20, and will be promoted to both members and nonmembers.
- Working on early preplanning with Sustain Jefferson for their strategic plan. The process will get started more in the summer.
- Working with the Solid Waste Committee on updating their solid waste plans. Currently, he is gathering information needed to bring to the committee.
- Connected with Blue Springs Lake District in Palmyra. He will be hosting a Zoom meeting in May with them. He will have specialists highlight the do's and don'ts of open meeting laws.

Alison Pfau, Regional Dairy Educator, was unable to attend the meeting. Her written report was provided.

- Wen stated Alison has her Handling and Administration of Vaccine and Medicine in Cattle Workshop this week. One day will be in Spanish and the other day in English.

Jerry Wilcenski, 4-H educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- He referred to the handout of the Thrive Survey. He will be using this data to build up the youth sparks.
- Collaborating with Walworth County 4-H to educate a new and underserved group that comes in from Milwaukee to a farm in Walworth County.
- Our dairy project just hosted a robust dairy tour that was open to surrounding counties.

- Hosted a 4-H and Extension booth at the Fort Atkinson Children's Share and Care Fair and made a number of connections with attendees.
- Held the last Food4ward program of the year on grains. The youth made a sourdough starter.

Julie Hill, Horticulture Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Continues to answer questions for residents
- Collaborating with Chmielewski on the store front project. Her main focus will be helping businesses with container and plant selection.
- Continues to lead virtual statewide programming: Emerald Ash Borer and No Mow May
- Currently has many in person programs: No Mow May, Container Gardening and Pollinator Gardening
- Meeting with the Jefferson County Parks Department today to network and share resources.
- Discussion was had.

Lisa Krolow, FoodWise Coordinator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Wrapped up lessons in 10 Jefferson County Head Start classrooms. Will now be hosting an informational zoom for Head Start parents.
- Teaching a 5-part series at two senior meal sites in Jefferson County (Fort Atkinson and Watertown). Currently, working with the Jefferson senior meal site on hosting a quarterly session as not many people attend the meal site.
- Will be teaching a series at two new housing sites in Jefferson County (Fort Atkinson and Watertown) starting in the summer.
- Participating at an event at UW-Whitewater this week to help students budget for healthy food and provide recipes for food they may find at the food pantry.
- Piloting a Tai Chi program funded by a grant for rural counties for older adults.
- Preparing the FoodWise budget for next year.
- Discussion was had.

Alison Pfau joined the meeting at 9:15am.

Josh Kamps, Regional Crops Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Continues to work on the Nitrogen Optimization Pilot Program with a colleague. This program will help educate farmers and agronomists on how to keep yields productive and profitable through nitrogen optimization.
- Shared information on the Badger Crop Connect webinar series. This program is held at 12:30pm on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from April to October.
- Partnered with the Manure Applicator Safety Program held in Jefferson. He helped teach to Spanish speaking individuals through interpreters on being safe around manure and transportation of it on public roads.
- Working with a State Moth Trapping Network to trap moths in response to true armyworm damage. The trapping of moths will help educators gain more knowledge on when they are coming in to the state and understand more integrated pest management.

Alison Pfau, Regional Dairy Educator, provided an oral report for the committee.

- Attended a 4-H program in Walworth County to present to youth on how to make a halter and safety of vaccination and medication administration.
- Hosting the Handling and Administration of Vaccine and Medicine in Cattle Workshop this week. One day will be in Spanish and the other day in English.
- Discussion was had.

Possible Items of Discussion/Agenda Items for Upcoming Meetings: None.

Next Scheduled Meetings: May 13, June 10, July 8

Adjourn – Motion by Foelker, seconded by Roberts, to adjourn at 9:42am.

Minutes recorded by Katelyn Broedlow, Administrative Specialist