

Agriculture & Extension Education Committee
February 11, 2008
Minutes

Committee members present: Chairman Wilbur Petroskey, Paul Dean, Guy Hansen, and Romelle Vandervest. Absent/excused: Tom Rudolph.

Others present: Dan Kuzlik, Patricia McGee, John Potters, Toni Rogers, Jim Winkler, and Kerri Ison.

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 9 a.m. by Chairman Petroskey.

Approve agenda: Motion by Guy Hansen/Romelle Vandervest to approve the agenda as printed. All ayes; motion carried.

Approve minutes: Motion by Paul Dean/Guy Hansen to approve the minutes of January 13, 2008. Ison noted Tom Rudolph contacted the office with the following correction to the minutes: bottom of page 2, "critical editorial" should read "critical letter to the editor". Minutes unanimously approved with correction.

Introduce County Coordinator: Chairman Petroskey introduced new County Coordinator John Potters. Potters has been on board for a month and noted it is good to be back in Wisconsin and to see everyone again. Potters is very happy with the way things are going and employees are making life comfortable so far. He is hoping to do many wonderful things for the County in the future.

Date of future meetings:

March 13, 2008 9 a.m. UW Extension meeting room

OCEDC monthly update: Jim Kumbera was unavailable to report.

Monthly budget reports: Motion by Romelle Vandervest to approve the monthly budget Close-1 report for the period ending 12/31/07. All ayes; motion carried. Motion by Romelle Vandervest to approve the monthly budget report for the period ending 1/31/08. All ayes; motion carried.

2007 line item transfers: Ison noted the transfers have not been completed and will submit them for approval in March.

Monthly invoices: Motion by Guy Hansen/Romelle Vandervest to approve the monthly invoices as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Fair invoices: Ison reported there are no invoices for the past month and the telephone has been disconnected.

2008 Fair planning: Dan Kuzlik noted advertising was done for a contracted fair coordinator. Two applications were received but felt the applicants did not have appropriate background to organize an event.

Kuzlik and Winkler are currently working to develop a plan that does not include a paid coordinator. Plans are to scale back to a three day fair to be held in mid-August to encourage more plant exhibits and offer free entrance to encourage/increase attendance. A proposal and budget was circulated and Winkler reviewed it line by line. Discussion followed. Winkler believes the event can be done for the \$15,000 allocated to the Fair in 2008, plus fees charged by Hodag 50.

Activities may include an automobile corral for dealers to showcase their products, inflatable toys instead of a carnival, family activities, community booths, commercial and food vendors. Judging will take place on Thursday as exhibits are brought in, except for animals. Discussion followed. Potters suggested renting space to commercial vendors. Guy Hansen suggested a horse-oriented event because it is a big draw.

It was noted the carnival was the driving force behind the dates for the event and also limiting food vendors. Without the carnival this year, the dates may be changed and other food vendors would be allowed. Winkler noted insurance/contract issues will need to be addressed to allow commercial and food vendors to attend – liability is a major roadblock. Kuzlik plans to meet with Margie Sorenson and Brian Desmond regarding the Hodag 50 contract. Lengthy discussion followed.

Committee members felt the plan is a good alternative to a full scale fair and hopes it will build community camaraderie and increase community ownership in the Fair.

Wilbur circulated an article from the last week's Wausau Daily Herald regarding the WI Valley Fair and the losses they are experiencing.

Motion by Paul Dean/Guy Hansen that the \$15,000 budgeted for the Fair be used for operational expenses. All ayes; motion carried.

Motion by Guy Hansen/Romelle Vandervest to approve the tentative plan as presented and directed staff to proceed with further development. All ayes; motion carried.

John Potters was excused at 10:10 a.m.

Agent reports: Toni Rogers reported the Lakeland Food Pantry has joined Hope for the Hungry. This is a tremendous boost for the agencies in Hope for the Hungry as it will significantly increase the order to Second Harvest. The Lakeland Food Pantry serves about the same number of clients as the Rhinelander Area Food Pantry. Rogers will be work with them to complete their paperwork next week.

Rogers also reported the Community Garden is making a presentation to City Council today at 4:30 p.m. and are willing to do a presentation to this Committee as well.

Patricia McGee was contacted by UW Superior regarding supervising an intern for 1,000 hours this semester. The intern will also work with another agency in Superior that is a for-profit business.

Jim Winkler displayed a working farm replica donated to 4-H by David Mundra of Sugarcamp. The entire wood structure is handmade. The model will be shown at various community events, including the fair. Winkler invited Mundra to show his other models at the fair and plans to approach him to become a woodworking leader for the 4-H program.

Motion by Guy Hansen/Paul Dean to approve the monthly agent reports as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

Out-of-county travel requests:

Kuzlik:

2/15/08	Northern District WACEC Meeting	Hayward, WI*
2/19-20/08	WCEA Board Retreat	Wausau*
3/5-7/08	CNRED State Symposium	Madison*

McGee:

1/16/08	Multicultural Workforce Network Meeting	Wausau*
1/14/08	HCOP Class	Eagle River*
1/25/08	Meeting with John Munson in Superior	Superior*
2/1/08	Meeting with Dr Jay Johnson, UW Superior	Superior*
2/7/08	IRL Presentation Prince of Peace	Eagle River*
2/19/08	Northern District All-Staff Meeting	Siren*
2/21/08	Healthy WI Leadership Institute Conference	Milwaukee*

Winkler:

2/19/08	Northern District All-Staff Meeting	Siren*
3/20/08	Northern District 4-H Agent Meeting	Phillips*

Committee:

2/15/08	District 4 WACEC Meeting	Hayward*
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*county expense
**district/state expense

Motion by Romelle Vandervest/Wilbur Petroskey to approve the out-of-county travel requests. All ayes; motion carried.

WACEC meeting: The Annual District 4 WACEC Conference is scheduled for Friday, February 15, 2008 in Hayward. Dan Kuzlik, Wilbur Petroskey and Tom Rudolph will attend.

Kuzlik and Petroskey will carpool from the Airport – leaving at 7 a.m. Rudolph will be attending a WACEC Board meeting on February 14, 2008.

Comprehensive planning follow up: There was nothing new to report at this time. Paul Dean will check for an update with Planning and Zoning Department staff.

Teen Court update: Jim Winkler noted he is working to set up a meeting to receive the judge's consent for the Teen Court program. He noted area schools are very interested and

willing to participate. Those Committee members who attended the January mock Teen Court presentation felt it was very informative. Winkler believes there will be at least a dozen folks on the planning committee but still needs representation from law enforcement.

Public comment: Toni Rogers noted staff has put together a contact list for area pantries so recipients can visit the pantry closest to their home and only receive food from one pantry.

Dan Kuzlik reported 55 individuals attend the Research Summit. The event was very successful in bringing the forestry, plastics and cellulose manufacturing industries together. The presentation by keynote speaker will be placed on the office website.

Romelle Vandervest was excused at 10:30 a.m.

Patricia McGee reported she has begun the edits for the documentary which have been placed on Utube to save time and cost of mailing CDs back and forth to Madison. Major topic areas include hunger, transportation, housing, employment, health care, and financial issues. Approximately 30 interviews will be used. She is also working to draft questions which can be used as discussion topics in trainings to help jumpstart group processes.

McGee will be attending a train-the-trainer workshop called Strong Women. It is a prevention program geared at women over 50 years of age to prevent osteoporosis, address balance issues to help reduce falls, and will include physical activity and nutrition components. The Northern District is assisting with cost.

Items for next agenda: Comprehensive planning, fair planning, teen court, community garden.

Adjournment: Motion by Guy Hansen/Paul Dean to adjourn at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri R. Ison, Recording Secretary

Wilbur Petroskey, Chair