



GREEN LAKE COUNTY
AGRICULTURE/EXTENSION EDUCATION
& FAIR COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 9, 2010

The meeting of the Green Lake County Ag, Extension Education and Fair Committee was called to order by Chairperson McConnell at 8:30 a.m., on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, with certification of the Open Meeting Notice, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

S. McConnell, M. Schweder, M. Stoddard, T. Traxler and W. Williams

EDUCATORS/STAFF PRESENT

A. Kavanaugh, J. Kauffeld, D. Slark, M. Spaulding and K. Zills

GUESTS PRESENT

Tom Schmitz, UW-Extension Central District Director & Joel Gerth, Green Lake County Jail Officer

LIBRARY SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE(S) PRESENT

L. DeNell

AGENDA

Motion/second (Williams/Traxler) to approve the Agenda. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Motion/second (Traxler/Schweder) to approve the January 12, 2010 minutes. Motion carried.

LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

Written report on file.

DeNell reported that Library Legislative Day was coming up in the next week. Census testing has been taking place at area libraries and tax forms are available.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENTS

Richard Swanke was present and was heard during the Commercial Space Vendor Proposal item.

CORRESPONDENCE

None



Fair Committee Discussion

COMMERCIAL SPACE VENDOR PROPOSAL/ALCOHOL SALES

Richard Swanke asked the committee to extend a vendor contract to him, granting him permission to sell alcohol during his track event at the 2010 Green Lake County Fair. A previous vote had been taken on this matter and would need to be reconsidered.

Discussion followed. McConnell stated that she had spoken to a representative from the Waushara County Fair to gain a better understanding of how alcohol sales were conducted at that fair. McConnell had been told that no major problems had occurred due to the sale of alcohol on the grounds. Traxler noted that a representative from the Winnebago County Fair stated that alcohol sales were a draw to the fair, and resulted in people staying on the grounds for longer periods of time, as well as bringing in additional revenue.

Motion/second (McConnell/Williams) to revote on the issue of alcohol sales at the 2010 Green Lake County Fair. A role call vote was taken:

McConnell: Yes; Schweder: Yes; Stoddard: No; Traxler: Yes; Williams: Yes
Motion carried.

Motion/second (Williams/Schweder) to allow Richard Swanke to oversee alcohol sales on the date of Thursday, August 5, 2010 during the duration of his track event for the year 2010 only. This vendor contract will be treated as a trial run for 2010 and may or may not be renewed or extended in coming years. A role call vote was taken:

McConnell: Yes; Schweder: No; Stoddard: No; Traxler: Yes; Williams: Yes
Motion carried.

Discussion followed regarding profit for the fair off of alcohol sales. It was decided that a donation of 50% of any profits will be given to the Green Lake County Fair. Swanke will be responsible for obtaining security and working with fair staff for this event. Swanke will report to the committee at the next meeting to update them on progress made.

2009 FAIR STATE AID FOR PREMIUMS - UPDATE

Zills had no update as state aid had not yet been received. This item will be revisited at a future time.

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

The annual report could not be completed due to state aid not being received. This item will be revisited at a future time.

2010 ENTERTAINMENT CONTRACTS

No contracts were presented.

2010 WASTE SANITATION SERVICE ESTIMATES

Zills reported that she had obtained estimates from several area sanitary service providers. Waste Management, who is currently utilized by the fair, is the most inexpensive for garbage removal. March's Pumping was the most inexpensive provider of portable toilets and sinks, however, Zills will give the past provider a chance to match the offer before switching providers.

2010 WAF CONVENTION

Zills thanked the committee for granting her permission to attend the 2010 Wisconsin Association of Fairs (WAF) annual convention. Zills attended several sessions on topics including sponsorship basics, technology, economic impact of county fairs, Parliamentary Procedure and a session highlighting an education packet aimed at promoting county fairs to grade school aged children.

BREAK

9:15 a.m. – Meeting reconvened at 9:21 a.m.

UW-Extension Committee Discussion

EDUCATOR REPORTS

Written reports are on file for the Educators.

Spaulding: Spaulding reported that members of the Wellness Coalition, including herself, are participating in the Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute (HWLI). HWLI is providing up to \$1,000 in assistance to the coalition, and there will be a community kick-off event scheduled in February to showcase the new structure of the Wellness Coalition. StrongWomen in Berlin is going extremely well, and Spaulding has developed weekly emails to participants. Spaulding will be meeting with Economic Support staff from Health and Human Services regarding a possible revision to her successful financial management class. In January, she was

recommended for promotion to Associate Professor with tenure. This process has several other steps and Spaulding will keep the committee informed.

Kauffeld: Kauffeld reported that the county received a \$45,000 grant to prepare an energy study and plan for the county, as part of the 25x25 initiative. A TCLI graduate is working with the Town and Country Resource Conservation and Development Council to implement "The Natural Step." The Tri County Leadership Initiative has decided that their project will be to bring back the "Big Brothers, Big Sisters" program to the county, and Kauffeld is helping to plan the Joint Council of Extension Professionals conference which will be held in April.

Slark: Slark reported that the Super Saturday event will be held on March 6. Older youth interviews were conducted in January, and ten youth will attend trips with financial assistance from the 4-H Leader's Association. Approximately 25 youth attended officer training, where leadership and teamwork as well as running club meetings were topics of instruction. The 4-H Ambassadors continue to visit area classrooms and Slark continues to work with 4-H adult leaders to better train them.

Slark asked if committee members had any ideas to help promote the UW-Extension office. Ideas included radio and newspaper advertising, in addition to keeping the County Board informed of UW-Extension services.

Motion/second (Stoddard/Schweder) to approve out of county days for the educators: Slark (4), Kauffeld (1), and Spaulding (5.5). Motion carried.

AGRICULTURE AGENT POSITION

Tom Schmitz, UWEX Central District Director, addressed the committee. He explained that the new Agriculture Agent should have an excellent grasp on the agriculture industry as a whole, and be willing to learn as he/she finds out what the needs in the county are. Schmitz gave a general timeline of the hiring process, with June, 2010 as the earliest projected starting time for the new Agent.

Schmitz asked whether the committee wished to consider an interim Agriculture Agent to assist the office before a final hiring decision is made. Schmitz explained that in many cases an interim Agent can be found rather quickly. The interim Agent would not need to be hired on a permanent basis. Discussion followed, with the committee being in favor of hiring an interim Agriculture Agent. Schmitz will work with Department Head Slark to begin the process of seeking an interim Agent.

Motion/second (McConnell/Schweder) to approve the hiring of an interim Agriculture Agent until a permanent Agent is hired.

Schmitz informed the committee that a salary range for the new permanent Agriculture Agent would need to be finalized before the position could be posted. Schmitz explained that a salary range should be competitive for the industry in the area, and that a wider range could potentially attract more applicants. Discussion followed, with the committee agreeing to a range of \$40,000-\$45,000 per year, with a target range of \$40,000-\$42,000 per year. Actual salary would be dependant on experience and qualifications.

Motion/second (Traxler/Schweder) to approve a salary range of \$40,000-\$45,000 for the new Agriculture Agent, with a target range of \$40,000-\$42,000 per year. Motion carried.

Schmitz gave the committee a written job description for the new Agriculture Agent (written copy on file) and asked for questions, comments or additions. Discussion followed.

Motion/second (Traxler/Stoddard) to approve the Agriculture Agent job description as presented. Motion carried.

CARRYOVER LETTER

Kavanaugh presented a letter addressed to Dan Priske, Finance Committee Chairman, requesting a total amount of \$3,500 to be carried over from the 2009 UW-Extension budget. Carryover funds would come out of the capital equipment and travel budget lines, and be used for the purchase of new copier in the future, and to help offset the cost of a summer intern.

Motion/second (Schweder/Traxler) to approve the carryover request letter as presented and forward to the Finance Committee. Motion carried.

UWEX PROGRAMMING IN NEW COUNTY JAIL

Joel Gerth, who had previously spoken with Spaulding, asked the committee if they felt UWEX could play a role in providing educational programming to inmates at the new Green Lake County Jail. He explained that he wished to see a collaboration between county departments, and would like an idea of the availability of UWEX staff.

Discussion followed. The committee agreed that UWEX could play a role in programming at the new jail. This item will be revisited as jail staff learn more about needs at the new facility.

McConnell left the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

INTERNET CAPABLE PHONES

Slark explained that the Educators felt it would be to their advantage to have internet capable county cellular telephones. At the present time, the county is not allowing this, due to monetary reasons. Slark asked if the committee had any opinions on the matter. Discussion followed, with the committee agreeing that the benefits would not outweigh the costs of the phones at this time.

UWEX SUMMER INTERN

Slark explained that the office would like to hire a summer intern. The intern would focus on 4-H and agriculture education, as well as assist at the fair with livestock projects and shows, and in the fair office. The office staff felt an intern would be very

beneficial this year, due to the potential absence of an experienced Agriculture Agent, and Kavanaugh's maternity leave which is likely to take place before and during the fair.

Motion/second (Traxler/Williams) to approve the hiring of a UWEX summer intern. The committee will be kept informed on the process.

EDUCATORS' PLANS OF WORK & UWEX COUNTY BOARD REPORT DISCUSSION

Motion/second (Stoddard/Traxler) to table two agenda items (Discussion and Approval of Educators' Plans of Work and UW-Extension County Board Report Discussion) due to time constraints. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION – REPORT OF LAST MONTH'S COMMITTEE MEETING – INCLUDING Q & A

- a. Property & Insurance Committee – Stoddard reported that the committee will be making a decision on whether or not to add space to the new building for all courthouse employees.
- b. Personnel Committee – Schweder reported that the committee had voted to refill the Agriculture Agent position.
- c. Finance Committee – No report

VOUCHERS – AGRICULTURE/EXTENSION EDUCATION & FAIR

Motion/second (Schweder/Traxler) to sign vouchers. Motion carried.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. in the Courthouse Demonstration Room.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second (Schweder/Traxler) to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison Kavanaugh
Program Specialist