



GREEN LAKE COUNTY
AGRICULTURE/EXTENSION EDUCATION
& FAIR COMMITTEE

May 12, 2009

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, May 12, 2009, 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

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

GUESTS PRESENT

Margaret Bostelmann (Green Lake County Clerk), Eileen Connolly-Keesler and Karlene Grabner of the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation were present for the Endowment presentation/discussion/approval.

LIBRARY SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE(S) PRESENT

L. DeNell

AGENDA

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

MINUTES

Motion/second (Schweder/Stoddard) to approve the April 14, 2009 minutes. Motion carried.

LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

Written report on file. DeNell stated that libraries are celebrating Children's Book Week. Master Gardeners have been presenting on vegetable gardening at several libraries, and the Markesan Library is having nine months of traveling art exhibits.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENTS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Kavanaugh passed around a letter from Kevin P. Reilly, UW System President. The letter discussed some of the budget cuts expected to affect UW-Extension, including rescinding the upcoming raises due to the Agents, and requiring Agents to take eight days of unpaid leave in each of the next two years. Slark stated that the committee would be kept informed on state budget issues affecting Extension.



Fair Committee Discussion – 2009 Fair

GREEN LAKE COUNTY FAIR/UWEX ENDOWMENT

Eileen Connolly-Keesler and Karlene Grabner gave a presentation, including an overview of the Oshkosh Community Foundation, and how an endowment could benefit the Fair and/or UW-Extension. Connolly-Keesler stressed that endowments are flexible - potential donors could specify within an endowment how money could be spent. The endowment would earn 4.5% interest. An endowment with a minimum of \$10,000 is considered a lifetime fund, with no scheduled deposits needed. If the fair or UW-Extension ever ceased to exist, the funds would be designated for a related organization or purpose. The Oshkosh Community Foundation would set up, advertise, and handle all administrative details for the endowment.

Bostelmann stated that another county department had started an account and was now having trouble funding it. She suggested that if an endowment was started, it would be wise to have a firm plan in place to fund it.

Zills informed the committee that 10% revenue, generated from fair vendors and saved in a CD, could fund the first \$10,000. UW-Extension did not have such funds available for an endowment of its own. Discussion followed, with the committee voicing support of a fair endowment, and some caution regarding a UW-Extension endowment, until funding was determined. Bostelmann informed the committee that a resolution would need to be presented to the County Board before any endowments were created.

Motion/second (McConnell/Traxler) to create a resolution to present to the County Board for a Green Lake County Junior Free Fair Endowment.

A roll call vote was taken:

McConnell: Aye; Traxler: Aye; Williams: Aye; Stoddard: Aye; Schweder: Aye.
Motion carried.

After further discussion, the committee decided to delay creating a resolution for a UW-Extension Endowment until more information on funding the endowment was

available. UW-Extension staff will look into the issue and report back to the committee at a later date.

Motion/second (McConnell/Traxler) to allow the withdrawal of \$10,000 from the Fair CD for the purpose of starting an endowment for the Green Lake County Junior Free Fair. The official name of the endowment is to be determined.

A roll call vote was taken:

McConnell: Aye; Traxler: Aye; Williams: Aye; Stoddard: Aye; Schweder: Aye.
Motion carried.

FAIR CONTRACTS

Motion/second (McConnell/Williams) to sign presented contract. Motion carried.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Zills referred the committee to the schedule of events in their packets. One change was noted; the antique truck and tractor pull will not take place due to conflicts with the fair dates.

UW-Extension Committee Discussion

EDUCATOR REPORTS

Written reports are on file for the Educators.

Spaulding: Spaulding reported that she would be leaving the meeting early to teach her *StrongWomen* class, which has been going very well. Spaulding is developing curriculum for jail residents, and plans to offer programming at the new jail when facilities are available. She continues to be in contact with the court system, and plans to create a three hour program for divorcing parents with the goals of reducing conflict and reducing the number of renegotiations in the court system, both shown to have negative effects on children with divorced parents. Spaulding is considering providing other educational programs in the jail, which could allow the county to house state prisoners.

Kauffeld: Kauffeld continues to hold two webinar series'. He is planning the Tri County Leadership Initiative (TCLI) graduation and an alumni meeting. Kauffeld has been busy assisting the Finance Committee with the process of hiring grant writing services. He has been the keynote speaker at several recent events, including the county Arbor Day Breakfast.

The CRD Agent's role at ICC meetings was discussed.

Motion/second (Traxler/Stoddard) to recommend that the CRD Agent continues to attend ICC meetings in order to fulfill job responsibilities. The Agriculture/Extension Education and Fair Committee will continue to approve out of county days and meeting attendance for UW-Extension Agents.

A roll call vote was taken:

McConnell: Aye; Traxler: Aye; Williams: Aye; Stoddard: Aye; Schweder: Aye.
Motion carried.

Support staff duties were discussed. UW-Extension support staff utilize computer programs not seen in other offices, such as Microsoft Publisher and webpage creation software; as well as prepare items for award banquets, achievement ceremonies, family and youth activities, etc. Kauffeld noted that perhaps County Board members should be educated on some of these duties, to avoid any potential misinterpretations.

Hargrave: Hargrave is participating in a soybean yield and economic contest with Shawn Conley, State Soybean Extension Specialist. Field days will be held at the site, and results will be used in winter programming. Hargrave has been assisting several farmers with nutrient management plans, and held the Heart of the Farm conference, which went very well. Participants toured the Central Sands Dairy and learned how this large dairy implemented a successful public relations plan. Feedback from the conference was very positive. Hargrave is assisting Master Gardeners with presentations at area libraries, and continues to receive many questions from the public on spring horticulture. Hargrave will give presentations at Stuart's nursery on square foot gardening.

Slark: Slark is planning the Fairest of the Fair competition. Camp Counselor training was held in April, along with Foods Revue and Demonstration Day. He continues to work with 4-H members and leaders on various activities, and attended a children's fair in Ripon to promote 4-H. Slark continues to be involved in several appointed UW-Extension teams.

Motion/second (Stoddard/Traxler) to approve out of county days for the educators: Hargrave (1), Slark (5), Kauffeld (5.5), and Spaulding (1.5). Motion carried.

AGENT OUT OF COUNTY DAYS/MEETING ATTENDANCE APPROVAL

This item was covered in Kauffeld's Educator report and was not revisited.

UW-EXTENSION OFFICE PRINTER

Slark informed the committee that the office black and white printer had been removed and deemed unrepairable. The office is left with only the color printer which had been previously used only for color documents, and had been purchased with UW-Extension budget money. Office staff are concerned about the cost of printing the majority of office documents on this printer, as it is more expensive, as well as the wear and tear on the machine. The machine also takes a long time to warm up before printing. This printer does not feed well and is therefore not capable of printing labels or fair tags, which is a large and time consuming responsibility. The office feels it is very inconvenient to use the black and white printer in the hall, as envelopes, labels, and documents are printed consistently throughout the day, as well as individual sheets of fair tags at fairtime.

Discussion followed. The committee asked that they be provided with cost estimates of printers the office felt were acceptable. This item will be revisited.

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

- a. Property & Insurance Committee – Stoddard reported that the building construction is coming along well, and costs continue to run under budget.
- b. Personnel Committee – Schweder reported that the committee reviewed the travel policy for employees, as well as the work from home policy, especially related to home email use.
- c. Finance Committee – McConnell reported that the committee conducted interviews for grant writers.

VOUCHERS – AGRICULTURE/EXTENSION EDUCATION & FAIR

Motion/second (Stoddard/Williams) to sign vouchers. Motion carried.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, 2009 at 8:30 a.m. in the Courthouse Demonstration Room.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second (Stoddard/Williams) to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison Kavanaugh
Account Clerk