

IRON COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Iron County Courthouse, Hurley, Wisconsin 54534
Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by William Thomas.

Roll Call and Introductions: Roll call was taken by Extension Office Manager Rebecca Holm. Committee members present: William Thomas, Opal Roberts, Brad Matson, Karl Krall. Committee member absent: Paul Mullard. Also in attendance: Neil Klemme, Amy Nosal, Deb Leonard, Darrin Kimbler, Will Andresen, Gina Monroe, Mary Pardee, County Board Chair Joe Pinardi. Iron County Youth Leadership Council members present: Molly Hohner, Billie Botes.

Acknowledge proper meeting posting: Holm acknowledged proper meeting posting.

Motion to approve meeting minutes for September 7, 2017: Matson moved to approve minutes for September 7, 2017, seconded by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve financial reports: Committee members received **Extension and 4-H and Youth Clubs** financial reports through November 30, 2017. Roberts moved to approve financial reports for Extension and 4-H and Youth Programs, seconded by Matson. Motion carried unanimously.

Update on staffing of Iron County UW-Extension: Mary Pardee reported on the following:

- Family Living Educator, Heidi Ungrodt's position in Iron County ended December 31, 2017
- Ungrodt is now working in Ashland County (50%)
- She offered continued partnership, stating that she would be willing to help with future canning workshops and parenting classes if needed
- Nosal spoke about her new title, Interim Community Educator
- Neil Klemme's Department Head role ended on December 31st
- Area Extension Director, Pardee will now be handling department head related issues

Public Comment: Brad Matson shared the following news:

- Madison reinstated the WCC (Wisconsin Conservation Corps) program
 - WCC members would be a great source to tap into when summer programming starts
 - Great opportunity to get area youth involved in the program
 - Implementation, to be determined
- Land Conservation has teamed up with other counties to get funding for a large pollinator project
 - Plans to plant native plants along bike trails and Saxon Harbor
 - Potential for Master Gardener/youth collaboration

Update on reorganization of Cooperative Extension: Pardee reported on the following:

- Rebecca Blank, UW-Madison Chancellor has been supportive and excited of the merger with UW-Madison
- Blank will be speaking to staff at the All Colleague conference in April

- 2018 Contract between Iron County and the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System
 - 3 positions were approved at the September 7th committee meeting- Communities Extension Educator (Nosal), Youth & Families Extension Educator (Klemme) and Agriculture Extension Educator (Kimbler)
 - Kimbler's position will be posted at a later date and he will have to apply for it when the time comes

Roberts moved to approve and sign the 2018 contract, Matson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- 2018 Memorandum of Understanding
 - Committee members not required to sign this one year pilot
 - Pardee shared that in our area, Douglas and Bayfield County have signed the MOU, but Ashland has not

Krall moved to approve and sign the MOU, Roberts seconded. Matson opposed, stating that he does not know enough about it and would like to see what changes other counties are making. Motion carried.

Agent Reports

4-H Youth Development - Klemme reported on the following:

- Iron County Youth Leadership Council (ICYLC) members have been attending Board and Committee meetings
- Some of the ICYLC members will be representing Iron County at Superior Days
- ICYLC members will be involved in planning a community photo contest
 - Community members will submit photos of locations in Iron County
 - Courthouse employees will vote for the top photos
 - The top photos will be blown up on canvases and used to re-decorate the walls in the Iron County Courthouse
- Four Iron County youth will be attending Winter Camp, which is located at Camp Crossroads in Delta, WI
 - Klemme will be doing a session on Community Building
- Chattanooga, Tennessee – Community Development Conference
 - Leading a presentation about Youth First Impressions
- The Ozarks, Missouri – State 4-H Youth Conference
 - Leading a breakout session about Youth First Impressions
 - Klemme plans to bring local high school students to this conference
- SISU Endurance Team ski club starts on Saturday January 14th
 - Over 40 new 4H enrollees, with several current members taking part in the program
 - Jackie Powers lead a coaches training
 - There is a great group of volunteers/coaches
 - Received a \$2000 grant from the Gogebic Range Health Foundation, which will cover the rental and trail fees for the members
 - Iron County 4-H Leaders association also donated \$500 to the program
- 2018 Iron County Summer Program fundraising has begun

Interim Community Educator: Nosal reported on the following:

- Asset-based Community Development will continue in 2018
- Nosal acknowledged Holm for her work as office manager and her work with the Iron County Mobile Food Pantry
 - Iron County UW-Extension staff, Iron County Human Services Department and the community volunteers that help out at the Iron County Mobile Food Pantry, were awarded the 2017 Volunteers of the Year from Second Harvest
- Summer Lunch programs – piloted in 2017, improved rendition in 2018
 - Connecting more people to our Farmers' Markets
- Working with the Forestry Department and ICORE on trail development
- Revamping of FeLiveLiveLife.org and its regional community calendar

FoodWise: Monroe and Leonard reported on the following:

- Leonard shared photos from her school programming
 - Receiving great feedback from the kids and families that she works with
- Monroe recognized the work Leonard does for Iron County FoodWise
 - She is building relationships and doing great
- Monroe also recognized Nosal for her work with FoodWise in 2017 and looks forward to collaborating with her on upcoming Farmers' Market projects
- Monroe has been busy finalizing end of the year reporting and educating in the schools, due to staff changes
- Plans to do more work with the Healthy Retail Project
 - Working with grocery stores and food coops on how healthy foods are displayed and marketed
- Ashland County received a grant for a pilot program, Youth Community Health Initiative
 - Partnership with Ashland County 4-H & Youth Development Coordinator – Bad River FRTEP, Joy Schelble
 - Possible opportunities to start a program like this in Iron County
- Leonard mentioned the Hurley School Garden and its need for partners
 - Possible Master Gardener collaboration
 - Hurley School partners are hard to find since school is not in session during the growing season

Horticulture: Kimbler reported on the following:

- Master Gardeners Volunteers Training nearing completion
 - 17 new Master Gardener Volunteers Extension Educators in the county
 - Very diverse group, ranging from 20's to early 70's
- Master Gardener Coordinator Manual in progress
- Nosal, as a volunteer is also contributing
 - Secretary of the local Master Gardener organization
 - She also sought out and received a continuing education grant for \$2000
- Nosal, Kimbler and MG volunteers will be attending a Garden Conference in Wausau in 3 weeks
- Saxon Harbor, trail development, and the pollinator project are great future opportunities to get Master Gardeners involved in design and implementation of projects
- Kimbler is looking forward to the increase in his weekly hours

Thomas asked if Will Andresen would like to say anything. Andresen stated that he appreciates committee support in Iron County.

Schedule next Extension Education Committee meeting: Next Extension Education Committee meeting will be scheduled at a later date.

Adjourn: Roberts moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Matson. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Unapproved