

IRON COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Iron County Courthouse, Hurley, Wisconsin 54534
Wednesday, May 9, 2018

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 9:31 a.m. by Extension Office Manager Rebecca Holm.

Roll Call and Introductions: Roll call was taken by Holm. Committee members present: William Thomas, Opal Roberts, Brad Matson, Karl Krall, Jamey Francis. Also in attendance: Neil Klemme, Amy Nosal, Deb Leonard, Darrin Kimbler, Gina Monroe, Mary Pardee, County Board Chair Joe Pinardi. Iron County Youth Leadership Council (ICYLC) members present: Molly Hohner, Billie Botes, Haley Allen-Rodriquez, Dayne Stuhr, Tabitha Morello.

Acknowledge proper meeting posting: Holm acknowledged proper meeting posting.

Committee Reorganization:

- a) **Election of Chair** – Holm entertained nominations for position of Committee Chair. Roberts nominated Thomas, seconded by Francis. Holm called three times for any other nominations. No other nominations were made. Francis moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Thomas, seconded by Matson. Motion carried unanimously.
- b) **Election of Vice Chair** – Thomas entertained nominations for the position of Committee Vice Chair. Thomas nominated Roberts, seconded by Matson. Thomas called three times for any other nominations. No other nominations were made. Matson moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Roberts, seconded by Francis. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve meeting minutes for January 10, 2018: Roberts moved to approve minutes for January 10, 2018, seconded by Matson. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve financial reports: Committee members received **Extension** and **4-H and Youth Clubs** financial reports through April 30, 2018. Francis moved to approve financial reports for Extension and 4-H and Youth Programs, seconded by Matson. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the 2017 Annual Report to the Iron County Board of Supervisors:

Committee members received copies of the 2017 annual report in their packets. Matson moved to approve the 2017 Annual Report to the Iron County Board of Supervisors, seconded by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: Iron County Youth Leadership Council member, Haley Allen-Rodriquez discussed the Iron County Youth Leadership Council Photo Contest, which has a deadline of March 2019.

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

a) **Horticulture Educator Contract**

- Darrin Kimbler's 20% Horticulture Educator position has been county funded since he started working for Iron County. All other educators are employees of UW-Extension.

- The 2018 budget was approved in January to include a 50% Agriculture/Horticulture position, which would be a new position through UW-Extension that Kimbler would have to apply for.
- This position is on hold as shared funding from UW-Extension is not available at this time.
- AEDs have been asked to look into a shared position with other counties.
- With \$22,000 in funds budgeted for Kimbler's position available, Pardee proposed that Kimbler's wage be increased from \$10/hour to \$15 hour, with a time increase from 8 hours per week to 16 hours per week. This increase would fall under the \$22,000 that has been budgeted for this year, and would leave a substantial savings in this account.
- Pardee will continue working on the shared position proposal and will have more information around budget time.

Matson moved to increase Kimbler's wage to \$15/hour and increase Kimbler's time to 16 hours per week for the remainder of 2018, seconded by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously.

b) Summer Staff

- Felicia Herlevi and Emily Murphy will be returning as summer staff, with a start date of Monday, May 21st.
- Funding needed to staff a third summer assistant, Tandrell Foster, recently fell through.
- Due to the growth and popularity of Extension's summer programs, three summer assistants are needed.
- Klemme proposes that this position, which is \$10/hour – 400 hours, be funded in the following ways:
 - 999 camp account will fund \$1000.
 - Iron County 4-H Leaders Association will potentially fund \$1000.
 - Steve Eder from the Hurley STARS Program will potentially fund \$1000, since Foster will be collaborating with the STARS Program this summer.
 - Remaining funds will come from the savings left over from the budgeted Agriculture/Horticulture position, as explained above. Klemme asked that \$2000 be considered from these savings, just in case any of the sources above fall through.

Roberts moved to fund a summer assistant up to \$2000, to come from savings from the budgeted Agriculture/Horticulture position, seconded by Matson. Motion carried unanimously.

Area Extension Director Report: Pardee reported on the following:

- UW-Extension has been hiring county educators across the state. Area 1 has filled the Community Development positions in Ashland and Bayfield and a 50% Human Development and Relationships position in Douglas County.
- Cooperative Extension merger with Madison was expected to be implemented by July 1, 2018; however, this merger will not happen until July 2019.
- There may be policy changes but the Cooperative Extension structure should stay the same.
- All Colleague Conference - Wisconsin Dells, which the Iron County Staff attended last week.
- North Central Extension Leadership Development Conference, which Pardee attended last week.
- Nosal's Interim Community Educator position ends on June 30, 2018.
 - Nosal is filling in for Will Andresen, who took on an Interim Community Natural Resource Development Program Director position in September 2017.

- As long as Andresen continues in his current position, Nosal's Interim appointment will be extended.
- If Andresen's Interim appointment ended, this position would be available to him after Nosal's contract is done.

Agent Reports

Before starting his report, Klemme stated that he would like to acknowledge Office Manager, Rebecca Holm, as she was nominated by the county staff and awarded the ESP Meritorious Support Staff of the Year award for her work in the County office and community.

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

- Iron County Summer Youth Camp will take place on July 10-13th with over thirty camp staff members and six 8th grade junior counselors selected.
- Outpost Camp is July 16-20th with a focus on canoeing this year instead of biking.
- Attending a national meeting in Maine next month to finalize plans for a future First Impressions presentation at the National Youth Conference next year.
- Klemme will be teaching a session at State Youth Conference, with 5 local youth participating.
- Space Camp ended last week, 4-H member, Luca Villanueva participated.
- ESP Early Career Award recipient at the JCEP Conference.
- Klemme, Nosal and Will Andresen also received an award for their participation in a research project about attracting and retaining youth in rural communities.
- SISU Endurance Team (SET)
 - The XC ski club was very successful this winter due to the amazing group of volunteers.
 - Expanding program to include a running and mountain biking club.
 - Klemme would like to see SET become a chartered 4-H Club.
- Klemme contacted Larry Erickson and Dave Traczyk/Iron County ATV Association to see if there is any interest in starting a 4-H ATV Club in partnership with the White Thunder Riders.

Interim Community Educator: Nosal reported on the following:

- County Trail Development – partnership with ICORE and the City of Hurley has been going well.
- March 28 - Moderated Iron County Citizens forum in Mercer.
- April 17-19 - Participated in the Asset Based Community Development workshop in Canada.
- May 13 - ICORE Trailhead Clean up.
- July 14 - Trail Fundraiser.
- September 19 - Small Community Forum in Hurley.
- Upcoming partnerships with Human Services, Farmers Markets, USDA Lunch Programs, Aging Unit, and Beth Wetzler/Mercer Chamber of Commerce.
- Grant writing partnerships.

FoodWise: Monroe and Leonard reported on the following:

- Federally funded contract through the USDA Farm Bill, which is good through 2019.
- Hurley Health Fair in April 2018 – Leonard and Monroe conducted 36 mini lessons in 3 hours about choosing healthy beverages (water) over sugary beverages.
- Working on 3-year plan for FoodWise.

- Conducted a needs assessment for each county, which everyone received with their packet.
- Seniors, age 65+ are nearly 28% of population vs. 14% of the Wisconsin overall senior population.
- Monroe stated that the FoodWise target audience are parents and young children but wants to address the barriers for the 65+ target audience, mainly transportation needs.
 - Roberts invited Monroe to the next transportation meeting.
- Leonard stated that school programming is complete for this school year and that she will be moving on to her summer programming, which includes working with the senior population and the Hurley STARS program.

Horticulture: Kimbler reported on the following:

- The 15 new Master Gardener Volunteers, who graduated in late January 2018, have been conducting programming in the community, such as reseeding Highway 51 with seed bombs.
- April 2018 - Pruning Class at Gogebic Community College, Soil Health Class and Earth Day events in Mercer.
- Silver Street Planting is scheduled for May 31st, with a rain day for June 1st.
- Horticulture Therapy Summit planning will begin in the Fall.
- Kimbler's long-term planning includes looking into the development of a commercial maple industry in Iron County.

Schedule next Extension Education Committee meeting: Next Extension Education Committee meeting will be scheduled on Thursday, July 12, 2018 at the North Lakeland Discovery Center at 10:30 a.m.

Adjourn: Francis moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Krall. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.