

**IRON COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Iron County Courthouse, Hurley Wisconsin 54534**  
**Wednesday, April 17, 2019**

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m. by William Thomas.

**Roll Call and Introductions:** Roll call was taken by Rebecca Holm. Committee members present: William Thomas, Opal Roberts, Brad Matson. Committee members excused: Jamey Francis, Karl Krall. Also in attendance: Neil Klemme, Amy Nosal, Deb Leonard, Darrin Kimbler, Mary Pardee, Iron County Youth Leadership Council members: Haley Allen-Rodriguez, Molly Hohner, Billie Botes.

**Motion to approve meeting minutes for January 23, 2019:** Roberts moved to approve minutes for January 23, 2019, seconded by Matson. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion to approve financial reports:** Committee members received **Extension** and **4-H and Youth Clubs** financial reports through February 2019. Matson moved to approve financial reports for Extension and 4-H and Youth Programs, seconded by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously.

**Motion to approve the 2018 Annual Report to the Iron County Board of Supervisors:** Committee members received copies of the 2018 annual report in their packets. Matson moved to approve the 2018 Annual Report to the Iron County Board of Supervisors, seconded by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:** Matson commented on the success of the Backyard Maple Tapping class held in February, stating that he would like to see the “backyard” theme used in other avenues of programming, such as composting, poultry, etc.

### **Educator Reports**

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

- Two summer assistants have been hired to assist with summer programming
  - Northland Collage student, Katie Lamoreaux
  - Hurley 2018 graduate, Tate Guenard
- Microsoft Digital Ambassadors
  - Klemme will be recruiting youth to provide education around digital literacy to the seniors in Iron County
  - \$6500 grant was awarded from Microsoft to assist with this project
- Ceramics & Card Making Workshop is scheduled for May 4
- 4-H Public Speaking Contest is scheduled for April 28
- Connecting Youth and Building Leaders through Placemaking
  - Youth from Iron, Polk and Iowa Counties will work together on this project, which will formalize a process to prepare youth to participate in community design charrettes
  - \$6000 grant was awarded from Karl Martin, the Dean of the Division of Extension to assist with this project

- SISU Endurance Team (SET)
  - Cross Country Ski Club
    - 2019 season was successful with 25 youth participants and 16 coaches participating in the 7-week program
    - \$1000 grant awarded from SISU Ski Fest
    - \$1000 donation received from an anonymous donor
    - These funds were used to purchase ski packages to loan out to youth who participate in the ski club
  - Mountain Bike Club
    - SET's mountain bike club will have some changes this summer
    - TrailBlazers will now be under the SET umbrella
    - \$4000 grant was awarded from the Gogebic Range United Way
      - \$2000 of these funds were used to purchase 6 mountain bikes for youth participants who may not have a bike to use
  - Running Club
    - Coach recruitment is underway for the 2<sup>nd</sup> season of the SET Running Club
- New Mercer 4-H club
  - Klemme hosted an open house in Mercer in February, which sparked interest in starting the new club
- Iron County Youth Council Photo Contest will be announcing winners next month
- Mercer Candidate Forum
  - Roberts thanked Klemme for moderating

**Community Development:** Nosal reported on the following:

- Nosal gave updates on the programming that Environmental Outreach State Specialist, Cathy Techtmann provides
- ICORE
  - Nosal expressed her gratitude for the community support after the passing of ICORE Committee member Mike Fauerbach
  - The donations made in Fauerbach's honor allowed ICORE to meet their 2019 fundraising goal for the Hurley to Montreal trail project
  - Hurley Trailhead Work Bee is scheduled for May 4
- Maple Syrup Competition
  - Partnership between Nosal, Kimbler and the Hurley Chamber
  - 5 area businesses participated
  - Nosal and Kimbler would like to see this become an annual event with increased educational activities
- Nosal will also be working with Klemme and area youth on the Microsoft Digital Ambassadors project
- Community Placemaking
  - Nosal, Klemme, Holm are working with Rita Franzoi from the Hurley Chamber and two other community members on some upcoming community engagement events
  - The Hygge Hike held in January was the group's first partnership

**FoodWise:** Leonard reported on the following:

- FoodWise Coordinator, Stephanie Bakker volunteered at the Iron County Mobile Food Pantry in February and March
- Bakker accompanied Leonard at teaching events at Hurley and Mercer Schools
- 2020 FoodWise grant process is underway
- Leonard will start Iron County Senior Dining visits in June

**Agriculture:** Kimbler reported on the following:

- Maple Syrup Programming
  - Backyard Maple Tapping Class held in February was successful
    - Brad Matson and Andy Rowe were presenters at the Mercer and Saxon locations
    - Kimbler would like to see this be an annual or semiannual event
  - Attended a Sugar Bush Forest Management class in Stevens Point in February
  - Participated in trainings for new Extension staff in Madison
  - Hosting a Gardening Class in Mercer on May 9
  - Attending JCEP Conference, April 24-26
    - Developing a Maple Syrup working group
- Master Gardener Volunteers
  - 2018 Annual Report highlighted school garden, trailhead and pollinator projects

**Area Extension Director Report:** Pardee reported on the following:

- All Extension educator and support staff emails have changed from ces.uwex.edu to wisc.edu
- Computer transitions are taking place as the transition to Madison finalizes on July 1
  - Holm will not have access to some computer resources because she is a county employee
  - Pardee stated that there might be additional software purchases so Holm can continue to do her work
- Area 1 & 2 Meeting at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center
  - Iron County staff attended
  - Madison HR and Bayfield Community Development Educator presented
- Transportation Summit
  - Roberts attended

**Schedule next Extension Education Committee meeting:** Next Extension Education Committee meeting will take place during Iron County Summer Youth Camp in Bruce, WI on Wednesday, July 17, 2019. Time to be determined.

**Adjourn:** Roberts moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Matson. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.