

IRON COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Iron County Courthouse, Hurley Wisconsin 54534
Wednesday, January 15, 2020

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 Jamey Francis. Committee members excused: Karl Krall, Opal Roberts. Also in attendance: Neil Klemme, Amy Nosal, Deb Leonard, Darrin Kimbler, Mary Pardee, Stephanie Bakker, Sarah Tarkington, County Board Chair Joe Pinardi, Iron County Youth Leadership Council members present: Haley Allen-Rodriguez, Molly Hohner, Jackie Bradley, Ezra Manzer, Adeline Huybrecht. Iron County Youth Leadership Council members excused: Kaitlyn Binz.

Motion to approve meeting minutes for September 18, 2019: Pinardi moved to approve minutes for September 18, 2019 seconded by Manzer. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve financial reports: Committee members received **Extension and 4-H and Youth Clubs** financial reports through December 31, 2019. Pinardi moved to approve financial reports for Extension and 4-H and Youth Programs, seconded by Bradley. Motion carried unanimously.

Holm reported that the Extension office paid a third of the cost of a new AQUOS Board, which is similar to a smart board. This advanced equipment will take the place of current audio-visual equipment (TV, projector) and will be used by multiple offices in the courthouse. The remaining two thirds were paid by the Iron County Sheriff's Department and Iron County general fund.

Public Comment: No comment.

Educator Reports

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

- Tech Changemakers Program
 - Youth (Digital Ambassadors) from Hurley and Mercer schools will be teaching area seniors how to use technology, such as smart phones and tablets.
 - They will also be teaching seniors how to pick safe passwords, shop online and create social media accounts.
 - This multi-session program is being offered at Mercer Library and Hurley Senior Center.
 - Haley Allen-Rodriguez and Adeline Huybrecht demonstrated a hearing test used for helping seniors in setting ringtones and notification tones.
- Iron County Summer Youth Camp
 - Donor letters were sent out this month
 - Camp counselor applications have been handed out at area schools
 - Camp will take place at Trails End Youth Camp on July 13-17
- Superior Days
 - 5 students from Hurley are participating
- SISU Endurance Team Cross Country Ski Club

- 31 youth have signed up
- 17 leaders are coaching this season
- 4-H Leaders Association donated \$1000 to the ski club
- 7-week program takes place on Sundays at ABR Ski Trails
 - New this year, 6 sessions will take place on Wednesdays at Wolverine Ski Trails

Community Development: Nosal reported on the following:

- Iron County Trail Work
 - Continued partnership with ICORE, which recently received a \$20,000 trail grant from the Gogebic Range Health Foundation
 - Grant will be used to work on improvements at the Hurley Trailhead and to help purchase the railroad grade between Montreal and Hurley for a future nonmotorized trail.
 - Nosal also presented staff and committee members the ICORE Hurley to Montreal Trail and Trailheads Development Plan
 - New partnership with Penokee Rangers, Inc. in development
- NICER (Northern Iron County Engaged Residents)
 - Nosal, Klemme and Holm are involved with NICER
 - Nosal and Klemme's work at the Community Placemaking Workshop held in May 2019, along with community input that was collected from the workshop is highlighted in Nosal's Collecting and Reviewing Northern Iron County Community Input report. Staff and committee members received the report in their packet.
 - Nosal also mentioned Holm's contributions to NICER in the form of a Facebook page, website development, and spearheading the Spooky Halloween Trail Walk in October 2019
 - The group's next project will be planning the 2nd Annual Hygge Hike-Free Community Snowshoe Hike, which is a fundraiser for Penokee Rangers, Inc.
- FeLiveLife.org
 - New FeLiveLive.org partners have signed on in 2019
 - 2020 plans include the opportunity for non-profit groups to sell their tickets on the website
 - The calendar is used to connect people to events that are being offered in Iron and Gogebic County

FoodWise: Leonard and Bakker reported on the following:

- Direct Education
 - Hurley School garden and classrooms
 - Mercer School classrooms
 - Hurley Head Start
 - Iron County Senior Dining Sites
- Participated in the Mercer Health Fair
 - Leonard and area partners worked together to have the Wisconsin Spudmobile attend the health fair and the Hurley School
- Bakker volunteered at the Iron County Mobile Food Pantry
- Introduced new hire, Sarah Tarkington to staff and committee members. Sarah is the new FoodWise educator for Ashland and Bayfield Counties.
- Bakker attended two conferences (November 2019)

- Bakker is working on new FoodWise county-level annual reporting

Agriculture: Kimbler reported on the following:

- Level 1 Master Gardener Volunteer Training
 - 7 new Master Gardener Volunteers will graduate at the end of the month
- Maple Syrup Programming
 - Kimber and Nosal attended two maple syrup conferences (October 2019 and January 2020)
 - New partnership with the Hurley School Students and teacher, Roger Peterson
 - The metals shop is making syrup pans and will be tapping trees in the spring
 - Beginner Maple Syrup Conference – February 22, 2020
 - Collaboration with MSU Specialist out of Escanaba
 - Takes place at the Hurley School District
 - Kimbler will be facilitating the Navigating State and Federal Regulations for Maple Syrup Producers session
 - Conference is being funded through a USDA grant

Area Extension Director Report: Pardee reported on the following:

- All Institute meeting in Madison, Iron County Extension staff attended in November 2019
- Pardee reported that Will Andresen, Extension Community Development Institute Director retired last month after 18 years with Extension. Andresen's home office was in Iron County.
- Annual Reviews
 - Holm had her annual review with Pardee in November 2019
 - The remaining Extension staff will start the review process in coming weeks
- Other Area 1 News
 - In addition to hiring FoodWise Educator, Sarah Tarkington, an 80% Agriculture Educator was hired for Ashland and Bayfield Counties
 - Pardee reported at the last meeting that the Extension Ashland County offices were in the process of relocating. This has been put on hold.
- 2019 Annual Report
 - Holm is starting to work on the 2019 annual report, which will be presented at the next committee meeting (late April/early May 2020).
 - Pardee suggested having Extension Iron County staff attend a county board meeting to discuss the annual report and the programs we offer in detail.

Schedule next Extension Education Committee meeting: Next Extension Education Committee meeting will take place in late April/early May 2020. Date and time to be determined.

Adjourn: Francis moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Manzer. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.