

IRON COUNTY EXTENSION EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Iron County Courthouse, Hurley Wisconsin 54534
Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m. by William Thomas.

Roll Call and Introductions: Roll call was taken by Holm. Committee members present: William Thomas, Opal Roberts, Ken Saari, Jamey Francis. Committee members excused: Larry Youngs. Also in attendance: Neil Klemme, Amy Nosal, Mary Pardee, Stephanie Bakker, Darrin Kimbler, Deborah Leonard, and County Board Chair Joe Pinardi. Iron County Youth Leadership Council members excused: Jackie Bradley, Kaitlyn Binz, Molly Hohner, Ezra Manzer, Adeline Huybrecht.

Acknowledge proper meeting posting: Holm acknowledged proper meeting posting.

Motion to approve meeting minutes for January 28, 2021: Francis moved to approve minutes for January 28, 2021, seconded by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve financial reports: Committee members received **Extension** and **4-H and Youth Clubs** financial reports through March 31, 2021. Saari moved to approve financial reports for Extension and 4-H and Youth Programs, seconded by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: N/A

Extension Overview: Pardee shared an Extension Overview PowerPoint presentation highlighting:

- UW-Madison and County relationships.
- Iron County Extension programs and state networks.
- UW-Madison and Iron County budget process.

Motion to approve the 2020 Annual Report to the Iron County Board of Supervisors: Committee members received copies of the 2020 annual report in their committee packets. Saari moved to approve the 2020 Annual Report to the Iron County Board of Supervisors, seconded by Francis. Motion carried unanimously.

Area Extension Director Report: Pardee reported on the following:

- COVID-19 policy update.
- Extension Ashland County referendum.

Educator Reports:

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

- Tech Changemakers
- Chaperoned National 4-H Youth Conference virtually.
- Iron County Summer Youth Camp will be taking place at Trails End Youth Camp, July 20-23.
 - 23 Counselors selected.
 - COVID policies allow 50% capacity.
 - 45 campers can attend this year.

- Iron County Outpost Camp will take place at Lake of the Falls in Mercer, July 13-16.
- Hired 2021 summer assistants, Jackie Bradley and Riley Kangas
- SISU Endurance Team's upcoming summer programs.
 - TrailBlazers
 - Running Club
- Iron County Fair will be taking place August 5-8.
 - Klemme would like to make the fair a large promotional event for Iron County 4-H, which lost 50% of its enrollment due to COVID-19.

Community Development: Nosal reported on the following:

- Community Health
 - Attends the Gogebic Range Health Foundation Community Conversations virtual meeting, held bi-weekly.
 - WeCope: Delivered this 7-week online stress management program to Area Health Education Center (AHEC) students in collaboration with Dunn County Extension educator, Stephanie Hintz.
- Trail Development
- Collaborative Programs
 - Participated in Water Week 2021, assisting to host speakers presenting online about issues important to the health of Lake Superior and surrounding communities.
- Iron Maple Festival
 - 6 Iron County businesses participated in the maple syrup drink and entrée competition.
 - 4 local Iron County artists contributed maple-themed pieces to raise funds for next year's festival and the Hurley and Mercer School art programs.

FoodWise: Leonard reported on the following:

- Continues to provide virtual programming to Hurley and Mercer students.
- Leonard facilitated a virtual Farm 2 School Chili Lunch nutrition lesson with Hurley Head Start students, which Darrin Kimbler attended to talk about vegetables that he grows at his farm.
- Summer Programing
 - Working with Hurley 4th graders in Hurley School garden, planting potatoes, which they will harvest as 5th graders in the fall.
 - Plans to participate in some upcoming outdoor programs at the Bad River community center.
- Iron County Senior Dining
 - Roberts said that the senior dining sites should be opening in September, maybe sooner depending on COVID-19 guidance and recommendations.
- Leonard praised Bakker for securing gardening supplies for the Hurley School garden programming. Supplies include trowels, buckets, gloves that students will be able to use.

Bakker reported on the following:

- FoodWise Newsletter
 - Continues to receive positive comments about this monthly resource that reaches partners and participants.
- StrongBodies
 - Partnership with Douglas County.

- Popular 8-week virtual program was extended to 12 weeks.
- Providing a second series over the summer.
- Iron, Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas counties can participate, as well as anyone in the state.
- Posted the Nutrition Educator position for Ashland, Bayfield, and Iron County.
- Continues to work on the 2022 FoodWise grant.
- Provided nutrition education content to the Jiibaakwedaa cooking group, which creates monthly guided recipe videos. Recipe bags are put together and distributed out of the Red Cliff Food Distribution Center.

Horticulture: Kimbler reported on the following:

- Held two online presentations in collaboration with the Mercer Library.
 - Growing Fruit Trees.
 - Growing Tomatoes in Cool Climates.
 - Both presentations were successful.
 - Roberts participated and mentioned how she was impressed with the number of people who attended.
- Assisted community members with horticulture, agriculture questions related to animal damage and soil testing so far this season.
- Master Gardener Volunteers
 - Work bee at Iron Horse Trailhead.
 - Master Gardener volunteer from Mercer has been working on cleaning up the area near Claire d' Loon building the Mercer Library rain garden.
 - Waiting to hear if the Hurley School students can participate in the Silver Street and Hurley School flower barrels for graduation. If not, the Master Gardener volunteers will work on this project.
- Master Gardener Level 1 Training Changes
 - Kimbler has been working with a statewide team to split this training into two categories.
 - Foundations in Horticulture
 - Online course with local in-person lab sessions.
 - For individuals who want to learn more about becoming a better gardener but do not want to volunteer.
 - Available to a statewide audience in September.
 - Master Gardener Onboarding
 - This is for individuals who want to volunteer as a Master Gardener.
 - Master Gardener volunteers will also be required to enroll on an annual basis.
- WIMI-Sam in the Morning
 - Providing horticulture advise on air, every other week over the summer.
- Farmers Markets
- Maple Syrup programming will resume this fall.

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

Adjourn: Francis moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Roberts. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.