



Winnebago County

The Wave of the Future

**UW EDUCATION, EXTENSION & AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024**

A. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Steve Binder. Brief introductions were made by all those present. Binder welcomed the new members to the committee.

B. Comments from the Public Related to Items on the Agenda/Requests to Add Items to the Next Agenda

None.

C. Approval of Minutes

1. Action Item: March 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Binder noted that only two current committee members were present at the March meeting; three are needed for the vote. Binder inquired as to the procedure for approving minutes without enough members being able to vote. Viau advised. Motion by Binder, seconded by Zellmer to place the March 21, 2024 minutes on file for review. Passed. Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0.

D. Safety Share

Binder gave a brief overview of the Safety Share agenda item led previously by Thomas Borchart, former committee member. Zellmer volunteered to take over this item going forward.

E. Committee Chair's Report

Binder welcomed new members to the committee.

F. UW Division of Extension Program or Educator Reports and Updates

1. May 2024 Extension Winnebago County Review

Binder explained the monthly report that is compiled by Extension Winnebago County and shared in the monthly meeting packet for committee members. Viau invited committee members to reach out to himself or Hendrickson for more program information or for educators' contact info to learn more.

2. Human Development & Relationships - Wenzel

Wenzel distributed Rent Smart workbooks for committee members to review. He briefly reviewed the Rent Smart program. He is the state co-chair for the program. Train the Trainer workshops are offered two months per year. Public courses are available online the remaining months per year. Wenzel conducts in-person courses at Oshkosh Correctional Institution, Drug Abuse Correctional Center, Winnebago County Jail, NOVA Counseling, Pillars, Tiny House Village, Oshkosh North High School Vocational Skills Program, and Wisconsin Resource Center. He presented at the Forward Services staff meeting about starting Rent Smart workshops with their participants, including refugees and non-English speakers. He is collaborating with the Department of Psychology and La Follette School to develop trauma-informed approaches focusing on specific programming for domestic violence survivors. Wenzel reviewed evictions data, history, and speculations. Ulbricht requested a meeting with Wenzel to discuss media opportunities for marketing Rent Smart further. Wenzel attended a

rental association conference earlier this year; interest in Landlord Education opportunities was expressed. The Re-entry Ready program helps prepare individuals nearing release from incarceration. Planning AHEAD focuses on planning for end-of-life care, at any age. Encouraging Financial Conversations teaches professionals how to have financial conversations with their own program participants. The Strong Couples Program partners with Illinois Extension to provide couples coaching to increase relationship satisfaction and improve communication. The Fatherhood Project team provides Focus on Fathers via Zoom. Wenzel provides programming at State Street Center as well. Financial Education will be required in Wisconsin high schools within the next few years; Extension will be involved in that opportunity. Wenzel will be presenting Re-entry Ready at a national conference in Tuscon, AZ in September. The recidivism rate within 3 years is about 50% in WI. Re-entry ready was presented to the UW-Madison Chancellor in November and the Provost last month. Ulbricht suggested working with Viau to have Wenzel do a presentation to the county board.

3. 4-H Youth Development - Berger

Berger called attention to the Winnebago County 4-H 2022-2023 document. Berger reviewed the data and trends. Berger called attention to the Winnebago County 4-H May 2024 Program Report & Updates document showing enrollment information. Berger reviewed the data and highlighted some of the programs depicted in the photos. Berger called attention to the Wisconsin 4-H Thriving Model Survey Report for 2023. Overall, Winnebago County 4-H scores very well on the Thrive measures. Berger called attention to the Winnebago County 2022-2023 Thrive results. Statewide, the 4-H program scores highly on Thrive measures. Berger distributed a second Winnebago County 4-H May 2024 Program Report & Updates document, not included in the original packet. She reviewed recent programs and upcoming programs/events. Berger has been collaborating with the 4-H Leader's Association on developing a spend-down plan for funds to comply with legal regulations and ensure the funds are utilized for 4-H participants and programs. 4-H, FoodWise, and Health & Well-Being are collaborating on the Outdoor Classroom project. The raised garden beds have been prepped and planting will begin this weekend. Berger expressed appreciation to Kyle Vergin from the Parks Department for his assistance loading the garden beds with soil with a skidloader. Chicks are scheduled to hatch at the Winnebago County Fair again this year, with increased security for the chicks. Berger encouraged committee members to follow the Winnebago County 4-H Facebook page. All members have been added to the mailing list for the bi-monthly 4-H Newsletter.

G. Extension Admin and Department Report

1. Facility Updates

The Extension Winnebago County office manages meeting room usage at the James P. Coughlin Center. Meeting Room management will transition to a new platform within the Civic Plus software system later this year. Viau invited committee members to tour the Outdoor Classroom with Berger after the meeting.

2. Staff & Department Updates

An offer has been extended and accepted for the Horticulture Educator role; the candidate is expected to start June 17, 2024. The Summer 4-H Program Assistant will start in a few weeks. Wenzel, Berger, and Mia Ljung were recipients of salary increases to recognize their work. Viau and Hendrickson will begin work on the 2025 budget between now and the June meeting.

3. Area/Region/State Updates

Viau shared his screen to provide the quick PowerPoint overview, Extension Winnebago County - Bringing the University to You. The Wisconsin Idea was developed to connect all residents of Wisconsin to the research and educational resources of UW-Madison, wherever they live and work. Extension has a presence in all 72 counties and 3 tribal areas. Viau briefly reviewed the history, current operation, and structure of Extension. Viau reviewed staff serving Extension Winnebago County and their program areas. Viau will provide a copy of this presentation to Hendrickson to upload to the Civic Clerk platform with the meeting minutes.

H. Announcing Upcoming Extension Events at County Board Meeting Discussion

Viau suggested highlighting Mia Ljung's upcoming Plain Language course. More information will be shared in a special edition e-newsletter from the office on Monday. Hendrickson advised committee members to search their junk folder within their county email address to locate the monthly e-newsletter and mark it as "not junk" or "safe sender" so they see it arrive in their inbox.

I. Comments by Committee Members

Gilbertson inquired about the possibility of 4-H being extended to 4K. Brief discussion ensued. Ulbricht expressed his appreciation for Extension and the work they do.

J. Committee Meeting Schedule

Discussion ensued regarding availability of committee members and Extension Winnebago County staff for scheduling upcoming meetings. June and July meetings will remain at the regular 9:00 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Per Viau's recommendation, Hendrickson will hold meeting room reservations for 9:00am on the third Thursday of each month for the remainder of the year. Future meeting dates/times may change.

K. Next Meeting Date

Next regular committee meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 20, 2024.

L. Adjourn

Binder entertained a motion to adjourn. Zellmer moved; seconded by Macho. Motion carried 5-0.