

# UW-Extension Education Committee

## *Minutes of Meeting*

**Date:** December 2, 2015      **Location:** Room 1001 (Iowa County HHS Bldg)      **Time:** 3:00 pm

**Members Present:**

Judy Lindholm  
Bruce Paull  
Dan Nankee  
Marjorie Bomkamp  
Bob Bunker

**Others Present:**

Debra Ivey  
Ruth Schriefer  
Gene Schriefer  
Larry Bierke

**Call to order:** 3:00 pm by Chair Dan Nankee.

**Roll call:** Present - Bomkamp, Bunker, Lindholm, Nankee and Paull

**Certification of meeting:** Noted by Ruth Schriefer that the meeting was posted

**Approval of the agenda:** Motion by Lindholm, second by Bomkamp. Motion carried.

**Approval of the minutes from September 15 meeting:** Motion by Bunker, second by Paull. Motion carried.

**Opportunity for public to address the committee:** none present

**Committee meeting schedule for 2016:** Committee members interested in continuing to meet prior to other County Board or Committee meetings to reduce travel time. Next meeting will include performance reviews for Extension staff and will be scheduled on a Tuesday in February or March.

**Resolution:** Honoring Iowa County Recipients of the 2015 Wisconsin 4-H Key Awards. Motion by Lindholm, second by Bunker to approve this resolution and forward it to the Iowa County Board of Supervisors for their December meeting. Motion carried.

**Acknowledgement:** Recognition of Iowa County 4-H Youth Development Agent Debra Ivey for her contributions to a state and regional award-winning team program on *Excellence in Animal Science* from the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents. Committee would like this honor to be announced at the December County Board Meeting.

**Reports from staff: All staff provided brief reports on their respective programs**

*Deb Ivey reported on 4-H programs:*

Deb reported on 3 programs: One program is called *Investigate Your Plate*. This was held at the UW-Platteville farm this past summer and she is part of a team developing a curriculum based on their teaching and evaluation as a requirement of the grant report. Deb continues to be actively engaged in STEM education and outreach and is currently developing *Grab & Go* STEM activities that challenge the learner to develop science and inquiry skills. The activities will be used at various youth events within 4-H and in the community and schools. Deb also shared that it is *4-H enrollment season* and that our membership is over 500 as of December 1, 2015. That number is staying consistent even though the number of youth eligible to be 4-H members in Iowa County is decreasing.

*Ruth Schriefer reported on Family Living Programs:*

Ruth continues to work on a program in southwest Wisconsin called *Money \$mart in Head Start*. She and her Family Living Agent colleagues in Grant and Richland Counties are offering monthly financial newsletters, educational workshops, and individual financial coaching to Head Start families and staff within the SWCAP service area. The Family Living Agents will be able to identify their impact through a statewide evaluation project with Head Start families.

*Gene Schriefer reported on Agriculture Programs:*

Gene shared examples of grant programs he is part of that bring new ideas to Iowa County farmers. One example is an EPA grant with Grant County and Southwest WI Regional Planning to identify *mine tailings and their impact on soil*. Another grant is studying the *perennialization of crops* (like corn & wheat). Another example is the Great Lakes Biomass project that is studying *production on marginal crop ground*. Gene has also attended the International Dairy Sheep Symposium held recently in Madison and was a presenter at the Green Lands Blue Waters conference. The nutrient management deadline is approaching and Gene is offering classes and individual assistance to farmers who are working on their plans.

**Restructuring Cooperative Extension:** Staff and committee members had a discussion about potential changes to the structure of Cooperative Extension statewide. More specific information will be shared with committee members as it is released.

**VISTA update:** Ruth shared that VISTA Ana Karina Burton continues to work on behalf of Spanish-speaking individuals and families in southwest Wisconsin through the MultiCultural Outreach Program.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Bunker, second by Lindholm to adjourn. Motion carried at 4:00 pm.

Submitted by  
Ruth N. Schriefer and cleared by Supervisor Bruce Paull, Secretary of the Committee.