

Land Information, Conservation and University Extension Committee  
Minutes of Wednesday, February 11, 2008  
Land Resource Center Meeting Room  
1106 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Merrill, WI 54452

Members present: Frank Saal, Carl Short and Gail Schneider

Members absent: Jim Alber, Wayne Plant

Visitors: Ruth Buck, Lorene Hass, Betty Ann Tubbin, Brenda Janke, Amanda Kostman, Brenda Herrell, Art Lersch, Debbie Moellendorf, Tom Cadwallader, Diane Hanson

**1. Call to Order**

The Land Information, Conservation & UW-Extension committee meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Frank Saal at 9:30 am

**2. Approval of Minutes from the January 9, 2008 Committee Meeting**

**Motion** by Schneider, second by Short to approve the minutes from the January 9, 2008 committee meeting. Motion carried, all ayes.

**3. Public Comment**

None

UW-Extension

**11. Q & A on Family Living Educator Written Report**

Vice Chair Saal asked if anyone objected to moving item 11 and 11a up on the agenda to accommodate our guests. With no objections proceeded to these items.

Brenda Janke's written report for January was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Brenda highlighted the program she is collaborating with the Marathon County Family Living Educator to train volunteers as financial counselors. These individuals will be called upon to help with the demand for financial counseling throughout Marathon and Lincoln County. She will be utilizing this same training to train volunteers from the Salvation Army in Tomahawk.

**a. Overview of Lincoln County Home and Community Education Organization (formerly Extension Homemakers)**

Betty Ann Tubbin, President; Lorene Hass, Secretary and Ruth Buck, Center Chair; were present at the meeting to provide an overview of their organization. The Home and Community Education (HCE) organization is celebrating their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year. This group was formerly known as "Extension Homemakers". Betty Ann highlighted two service projects their organization is involved in. First, the Wisconsin Bookworms program where 50 volunteers from their groups go in once a month to both Merrill and Tomahawk Head start to read a book to the children, do an activity and also provide a book to each child to keep. Lincoln County was one of the first seven HCE groups in the state to become involved in this program. Another service project HCE is involved in is sewing wheelchair caddies and walker bags that are then provided to individuals throughout the county through various sources. Brenda and officers of the group explained that the Family Living Educator (or guest speakers) provides educational lessons for members of HCE who then teach this information to others. Betty Ann, Lorene and Ruth also highlighted their involvement in their State and International affiliated organizations, including their participation in State and International Leadership Conferences. Supervisor Saal thanked and complimented the group for the wonderful work they do and their adaptability in modifying their program as needs have changed during their 75 year history.

4. **Review Extension budget monthly report**  
Moellendorf reviewed the revenue and expense report for January which was included in the committee's packet.
5. **2007 Budget Modifications – Review and Action**  
Moellendorf reviewed and explained the 2007 Budget modifications requesting.  
  
**Motion** by Schneider, second by Short to approve the 2007 Budget modifications as submitted in documents and explained by Moellendorf. Motion carried, all ayes.
6. **Update on State WACEC Conference being hosted by Central District on June 16-18, 2008 at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point**  
Moellendorf indicated that there are no updates at this time.
7. **Review and Discuss Results of Central District and Lincoln County Phone Survey Conducted by UW-Stevens Point Community Research Center (September through November of 2007)**  
Moellendorf distributed a copy of the Lincoln County Survey Report to the committee. UW-Extension Central District contracted with UW-Stevens Point Community Research Center to conduct community surveys in each of the fourteen counties in the Central District. The surveys are part of UW-Extension's four year planning process. During the months of September through November, the Center made calls to 3,535 randomly selected households in the fourteen counties including 255 in Lincoln County. The results of this survey are being shared with various groups staff work with and will be utilized by staff as one assessment piece as they develop their future programming plans for 2009 and beyond. Moellendorf highlighted that 59% of the 255 Lincoln County respondents indicated that they had used information and services of the UW-Extension office. Of those who indicated they used our services, 96% indicated that they valued this information and service.
8. **Report on Community Partner Advisory Group Meeting on January 31st, 2008**  
Lersch provided a report on the recent Community Partner Advisory Group (CPAG) Meeting. The Central District Phone Survey results were shared and discussed with the nineteen people who attended the meeting. He explained that we are planning to hold our second CPAG meeting for the year in late spring where we will set up round table discussions on the issues identified in the phone survey and those identified in an earlier issue identification process by the CPAG members. During these round tables, participants will be asked to begin identifying ways that UW-Extension and/or with others can address these issues.
9. **Q & A on Agriculture Development Agent Written Report**  
Tom Cadwallader's written report for January was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Committee members had no questions on the report.
10. **Q & A on Community and Economic Development Educator Written Report**  
Art Lersch's written report for January was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Art highlighted the work he is doing with Tomahawk Businesses on their Main Street program application which is due on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and the planning process he is facilitating with the Human Services group. Supervisor Short asked when they would be notified if their application was accepted. Lersch indicated in May.
12. **Q & A on Wisconsin Nutrition Education Written Report**

Brenda Herrell and Karen Thell's written report for January was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Brenda highlighted the programming they are now doing at Washington Elementary School where they incorporate physical activity with a nutrition lesson. They are able to use the gym which gives them more flexibility with programs. She also highlighted the new grocery store tours starting with Community Support Group as a way to provide more hands-on experience in reading food labels and making healthier food selections when shopping.

**13. Q & A on 4-H Youth Development Program Advisor Written Report**

Amanda Kostman's written report for January was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Amanda highlighted the 4-H promotional and educational activities that the 4-H Ambassadors were involved in this month at Trinity Family Fun Festival. She also highlighted the 2008 Teen Court Training that occurred in late January and how experienced panel members were involved as the teachers during the training.

a. **2007 Teen Court Overview**

Kostman then provided an overview of the 2007 Teen Court Program. During her overview, she highlighted the benefits that both the respondents and panel members experience from their involvement in Teen Court. In 2007, 23 respondents participated with 19 of them successfully completing their sanctions. When surveyed, high numbers of the respondents and their parents reported that due to their participation in teen court the youth experienced and the parent have observed an increase in communication skills, youth are more responsible, they make better decisions, the youth are getting better grades in school, and youth are more selective of friends. Twenty-seven youth were trained as panel members with 22 of them serving during the year. Most panel members indicated that due to their participation in teen court they have increased their participation in the community and school, have performed better at school, are better at solving conflicts and solving problems, are more confident and better public speakers, are more likely to be law-abiding citizens, and have more respect for police officers. The 19 youth who have successfully completed Teen Court gave 307 hours back to the community. The panel members donated 180 hours hearing cases and another 270 hours being trained in addition to presenting to various groups. One panel member said "This is an excellent program. It makes me feel great to be part of such a great community."

**14. Q & A on 4-H Youth Development Agent/Department Head Written Report**

Debbie Moellendorf's written report for January was included in the agenda packet for the committee to review and placed on file. Debbie informed the committee that the \$1,800 grant she applied for to support training for those involved in after school programs in the county was funded. These funds will be utilized to support individuals in attending regional and state trainings during 2008. She also indicated that she will be working with a group of adults and youth to present a workshop on "Involving Youth as Partners in After School Programs" at the State After School Conference in April.

**15. Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting with UW-Extension will be Tuesday, April 8, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. in the LRC Meeting Room. If items requiring committee action arise before this date, they will be placed on the Land Information and Conservation meeting agenda for Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. in the Forestry Meeting Room.

(UW-Extension staff and HCE officers left the meeting at 11:25 a.m. Diane Hanson joined the meeting at this time.)

16. **Review and Take Action on Addressing Ordinance modifications**

Diane reviewed the modifications made within the Addressing and Road Naming Ordinance.

**Motion** by Short second by Saal to accept modifications to the Addressing and Road Naming ordinance. Carried all ayes.

17. **Review and Take Action on attendance at Grazing Conference**

No action taken.

18. **Adjournment**

**Motion** by Schneider second by Short to adjourn at 11:40am. Carried all ayes.

Minutes prepared by: Debbie Moellendorf and Diane Hanson