Jackson County Extension Education Committee Minutes

December 10, 2015

Attending: Karen Thayer, Gaylord Olson, Dennis Eberhardt, Larry Blaken, Tyler Kapfer, Monica Lobenstein, Trisha Wagner, April Duval, Luane Meyer

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairperson Thayer. Tyler hosted. Motion by Kapfer and second by Blaken to approve the November 5 minutes. Carried. The next meeting is January 14 at 8:30 a.m. Larry will host. Motion by Kapfer and second by Olson to approve the bills as presented. Carried.

Discussion on the nEXT Generation model and the upcoming meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 7 from 2-4 p.m. Julie Keown-Bomar, Northwest Regional Director, will facilitate the meeting sharing the current information available on the restructuring.

Education Reports:

April shared the following highlights of WNEP: nutrition education for the 4K program has been added at several county sites; many opportunities to receive free curricula through USDA; other sites for education include WIC and the Early Head Start locations as well as at BLAST which include 3rd, 4th, 5th grades. 2016 WNEP calendars were handed out.

Monica reported the 4-H and Youth Development programming: the annual volunteer & leaders retreat was held with focus on creating a welcoming club environment, including service learning opportunities, and club leadership; 4-H is using a new executive board structure to encourage a representative from each club to attend bi-monthly meetings and then take information back to club meetings; the executive team meeting will be held monthly; within the Strengthening Families focus, the Partnership Council is working on fine tuning the referral system, where are the gaps and who needs to be at the table; Monica and Lisa met with the Tavern League to discuss QPR training and the training was presented to bartenders in December; reporting shows that youth are feeling more comfortable with using QPR skills to report when they have a concern; the eight-session Taking Care of You program has been completed.

Trisha highlighted Ag. programming: workshop for farmers held in partnership between UW-Extension Agents in the NW Region with Professional Dairy Producers of WI to assess skills considered important for successful business management; completed development and teaching of “Spanish for Agricultural Sciences” at UW Farm & Industry Short Course; regional farm succession peer discussion group is continuing to meet with topic selected for winter meeting.

Luane reported the following family living programs: presentation of mini-lessons for club representatives at HCE executive board meetings; working with Ho-Chunk Head Start to initiate the Money Smart in Head Start project; BRF Middle School will be involved in the eParenting®High-Tech Kids project which involves a brief, weekly e-mail message for parents.

Trisha gave a presentation on her most recent Farmer-to-Farmer trip to Colombia in October; involved multiple agriculture related presentations and hands-on work with students at the Tech Institute.

Motion by Olson and second by Blaken to adjourn at 10:30 a.m.

Submitted by: Luane Meyer