

Community Partner Advisory Group Meeting

MINUTES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006 Meeting—6:30 PM

Wisconsin Room

County Courthouse Annex—Elkhorn, WI

Hoss Rehberg, Vice-Chairman, called the April 25 meeting of the Community Partner Advisory Group to order at 6:33 p.m.

Roll call—CPAG members present included Rollie Cooper, Elton Feffer, Thomas Ganfield, Dianne Kegley, Sheri Nelson, John Newhouse, Gen Reed, Hoss Rehberg, Nina Ruskey, Kathleen Tober, and Mary VanderVeen. A quorum was declared.

Ag and Extension Education Committee present—Don Fredrich.

UWEX staff present— Peg Reedy, Ag/Agribusiness Educator, and Angie Recknagel, Recording Secretary.

Public in attendance— None

There were no withdrawals from the Agenda. **Feffer moved to approve the agenda as presented, with a second by Newhouse. The motion carried 11-0.**

Reed moved to approve the minutes of the February 28 meeting of the Community Partner Advisory Group, with a second by Nelson. The motion carried 11-0.

Public comment—There was no public comment.

Status of CPAG membership for 2006—Rehberg explained to the group that there is still a vacancy on the CPAG from the southwest quadrant. Possibly there should be another youth on the group, and it doesn't have to be a 4-H member.

Discussion of how to fill remaining vacancy in SW quadrant—Rehberg explained that he knows Reed has had conversations with a possible member and has relayed information to Belczyk. Nelson stated that she has also had conversations with a possible new member from Big Foot High School, and she will continue to work on this and report back to the group at its next meeting.

Report of Leadership Program Exploration Subcommittee (Reed, Buleje, Ganfield, and Ruskey)—Reed reported that the subcommittee did some investigation in the areas where they live. Some questions they asked were:

- What are some of the leadership development programs that are currently offered within the county that maybe CPAG members don't know about? (To ensure we wouldn't be duplicating a program already being conducted.)

- Is there a need for this type of community leadership programming in our county?
- What partners or steering committee members could you recommend to help plan and implement such a program?
- What models are you aware of for this type of programming?
- What funding sources might there be for this type of programming?

Ruskey reported that she spoke with four people from the Lake Geneva area. They were all interested in the idea. They liked the idea of having an objective, apolitical group running such a program and would be interested in serving on a steering committee.

Reed stated she spoke with three individuals from the Delavan and Elkhorn areas. All three also all felt there was a need for such a program in Walworth County. Two of the three recommended Mike Murphy to help with planning. Reed noted that this has not been discussed with Murphy. One of Reed's contacts suggested United Way as a possible funding source.

Ganfield reported that he spoke with two people from the Whitewater area. The first was supportive of the concept. The other preferred to see a written proposal before commenting.

Rehberg asked the subcommittee if they needed more time to make a recommendation, or if they would like to recommend that a panel be brought together to facilitate further investigation

Reed responded that the subcommittee recommends their report be presented to the AEE Committee at its next meeting, with the recommendation that the AEE Committee work with UW-Extension staff and community partners to plan and implement a community leadership program in Walworth County. Ruskey is available to attend the AEE Committee meeting.

Cooper moved for the subcommittee to present it report to the AEE Committee with the recommendation that they proceed with implementing a community leadership program. Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried 11-0.

Value of Agriculture in Walworth County—Reedy distributed the Walworth County Agriculture Value and Economic Impact brochure and discussion points on "Working Lands Initiative Vision and Working Lands Enterprise Areas" from the recent listening session with the Secretary of Agriculture, Ron Nilsestuen. She then presented a PowerPoint to the group on the Value and Economic Impact of Walworth County.

Rehberg followed up the presentation by asking CPAG members if they would like to bring in a panel for further exploration of ag issues or if they would like to form a subcommittee to investigate the issues further and formulate specific recommendations. **Tober moved that Reedy invite Dr. Thering, Professor of Engineering at Madison, to present a workshop at the next CPAG meeting and to invite the County Board members to this meeting.** There was no second; discussion followed. **Tober withdrew her motion.**

Feffer moved to create a subcommittee to draft a resolution to present to the AEE Committee, with a second by Cooper. Motion carried 11-0.

Subcommittee members include Vander Veen, Tober, Kegley, and Nelson. Reed agreed to gather school data as discussed, and Reedy agreed to gather ground water information. They will forward their finding to the subcommittee, which will draft a resolution and report back to the full CPAG at the next regularly scheduled meeting, set for June 27, 2006.

CPAG invitation to WACEC Annual State Conference—Information and registration packets for the WACEC State Conference were distributed at the beginning of the meeting. Rehberg explained that the Dean's office is covering registration fees for CPAG members. Funds for lodging and travel would come from the Walworth County UWEX budget. He suggested that CPAG recommend funding be provided to support the participation of two or three members. Nelson and Tober both indicated an interest in attending. **Feffer moved to recommend that the UWEX budget support the costs for up to three CPAG members to attend the conference. Anyone interested needs to contact Belczyk prior to the registration deadline. Reed seconded the motion. Motion carried 11-0.**

Next Meeting Date—The CPAG will next meet on June 27, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. at the Annex. **Ganfield moved to devote the June 27 CPAG meeting to discussion and final wording of draft resolution regarding agriculture, as developed by the subcommittee. Reed seconded the motion. Motion carried 11-0.**

Adjournment—**Ruskey moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m., and Feffer seconded the motion. The motion carried 11-0.**

Submitted by Angie Recknagel, recording secretary. Minutes approved by the Advisory Group on June 27, 2006.