

Community Partner Advisory Group Meeting
MINUTES

Tuesday, June 27, 2006 Meeting—6:30 PM

Auditorium
County Courthouse Annex—Elkhorn, WI

Jacqueline Buleje, Chairman, called the June 27 meeting of the Community Partner Advisory Group to order at 6:35 p.m.

Roll call—CPAG members present included Jacqueline Buleje, James D’Alessandro, Elton Feffer, Dianne Kegley, John Newhouse, Gen Reed, Hoss Rehberg, Nina Ruskey, Kathleen Tober, and Mary VanderVeen. A quorum was declared.

Ag and Extension Education Committee present—Stan Muzatko.

UWEX staff present— Carolyn L. Belczyk, UW-Extension Department Head, Linda Giorno, TOPjobs summer intern, and Angie Recknagel, Recording Secretary. Peg Reedy, Ag/Agribusiness Educator arrived at approximately 6:53 p.m.

Public in attendance— Neal Frauenfelder, Walworth County Senior Planner

There were no withdrawals from the Agenda. **Feffer moved to approve the agenda as presented, with a second by Rehberg. The motion carried 10-0.**

Rehberg moved to approve the minutes of the April 25 Community Partner Advisory Group meeting, with a second by Kegley. The motion carried 10-0.

Public comment—There was no public comment.

Status of CPAG membership for 2006—Belczyk explained that the group is still in need of one additional member from the Southwest Quadrant. There have been a couple of suggestions from Reed and Nelson. However, nothing has worked out at this time.

Discussion of if/how to fill remaining vacancy in SW quadrant— Belczyk asked the group if they would be interested in leaving the position open until the current term is up, then recruiting for it at the same time as other vacancies are being filled, making it a one year term. **VanderVeen moved to leave the position open until the fall of 2006, with a second by Newhouse. The motion carried 10-0.**

Report by Community Leadership Program Exploration Subcommittee regarding their presentation to the AEE Committee on May 15 (Ruskey)—Ruskey explained that she presented the subcommittee's report at the AEE Committee’s meeting on May 15. The report lined up perfectly with the committee's discussion that day regarding the future of the Community, Natural Resources, and Economic Development (CNRED) Educator position in Walworth County. Belczyk indicated that it would be possible for the CPAG to pursue this program by organizing a steering committee with staff to begin planning. She asked if anyone would be

interested in serving on such a steering committee. Gen Reed and Jacqueline Buleje volunteered to serve.

Value of Agriculture in Walworth County – Report by subcommittee and review and discussion of draft resolution (Vander Veen, Kegley, Tober and Nelson)— Vander Veen reported that the subcommittee met and found they did not have enough information. Therefore, they invited Neal Frauenfelder, Senior Planner for Walworth County, to tonight's meeting to provide additional information on zoning and planning for growth in Walworth County. She noted that she and Kathy Tober recently attended the Future of Farming in Rural America Forum in Milwaukee. The subcommittee believes that people should be further educated to make their own decisions regarding growth.

Frauenfelder was introduced and used a PowerPoint presentation/handout to discuss planning issues with the group. He focused on Smart Growth planning and the process identified for getting community input. The county must have a plan by 2010. There are 11 or 12 towns signed on to participate with the county. Other communities have completed their plans or will be working independently from the county. There is Smart Growth Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) that is composed of three members of the County Zoning Committee, three members of the County Land Conservation Committee, and one member from each participating town. Frauenfelder noted that Walworth County has had a good plan over time and that in the previous planning process, the agricultural community was very outspoken regarding the need to preserve farmland. He hasn't heard so much from this community on this issue in the current planning process. He noted that the UW-Extension CNRED Educator was identified by the state as a key position to help with the Smart Growth planning, but there is no one in this role in Walworth County.

Belczyk asked about the appropriate educational role for the CPAG or for the UW-Extension staff in the Smart Growth process. Frauenfelder suggested the best way to have input would be to have a voice at the Technical Advisory Committee meetings. Two good meetings to attend would be the October and January meetings. Vander Veen recommended developing a forum or series of meetings to educate the public about planning issues and help them think about their priorities. The Walworth County Dairy Committee and/or the Farm Bureau would possibly be willing to commit funds in support of this effort.

Fraunfelder suggested the subcommittee gather together representative from the ag community to get their input on Smart Growth. He indicated that this would be very useful to the Technical Advisory Committee as they proceed with the process.

The subcommittee agreed to meet again and refine a proposal for the next steps. **Kegley moved to table making any recommendations until the August 22nd CPAG meeting, and Tober seconded the motion. The motion carried 10-0.**

Chairperson's Report – CPAG Conference, Pyle Center, Madison, June 15—Buleje indicated she attended a CPAG workshop in Madison on June 15.

Next Meeting Date—The CPAG will next meet on August 22, 2006, at 6:30 p.m. The subcommittee will make its recommendations. If the UW-Extension Department has moved to

the Government Center by then, the meeting will be held at the Government Center Committee Room.

Adjournment—D’Alessandro moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m., and Feffer seconded the motion. The motion carried 10-0.

Submitted by Angie Recknagel, recording secretary. Minutes approved by the Advisory Group on December 5, 2006.