

NATURAL RESOURCES AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Manitowoc County Office Complex
Thursday, July 1, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Susie Maresh at 5:15 p.m.

Those present were: Susie Maresh, Cathy Wagner, Melvin Waack, and Andy Schneider. Laurie Burke was unexcused. Also present was Dr. Martin Rudd, Pat Hollen, and Faye Malek.

There was no public.

Motion by Melvin Waack, second by Andy Schneider, to approve the minutes of the June 2010 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Andy Schneider, second by Cathy Wagner, to approve the agenda as printed. Motion carried.

Faye announced that the Sheboygan-Manitowoc County WNEP Coordinator Melissa Giebel and husband Brian welcomed a daughter, Megan Marie, on June 30th. Melissa will take a three month maternity leave. Betsy Warmus and Faye will work together to cover educational requests.

Faye gave an update on the current office budget. Expenditures should be at 50% of the budget for this time of year. In most cases, expenditures are less than that amount due to frugal spending.

Dr. Martin Rudd, Interim CEO and Dean of UW-Manitowoc was present on his first official day on the job. He will be the Interim until June 30, 2011 and comes from UW-Fox Valley. Martin shared that there is a collaborative partnership between UW-Manitowoc and UW-Stout that partners undergrads with high school biology students. The high school students continue their research when they attend either of the Universities which provides them with an in-depth study experience. Martin reported on another project he and others are pursuing that involves instruction utilizing UW-Manitowoc faculty through a televised system. The faculty would provide International Baccalaureate classes for high school students throughout Manitowoc County, with particular emphasis on schools with limited resources.

NREC members gave feedback regarding the UW-Extension Meet and Greet prior to the June County Board meeting. Suggestions included having displays every-other-year. In alternate years, the UW-Extension Educators would update Supervisors at tables as they enjoy ice cream.

Manitowoc County UW-Extension Master Gardener President Pat Hollen provided the monthly educator report. In 2009, the Master Gardeners gave 4,274 hours of volunteer service through educational and service projects. Some of their projects include: Emerald Ash Borer educational presentations, Plant Clinics on Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays to answer questions from the public, host of Garden Walks every-other-year, and maintaining gardens at the Chamber of Commerce/Manitowoc Zoo/Silver Lake. Members also do special projects in small groups or singly for their church, school, hospitals, libraries, Woodland Dunes Nature Center, Historical Village, and city or village corners and streets.

Cathy Wagner gave a report from the WACEC Conference she attended in June with her attendance in the "Groundwater Resources and WI: What Everyone Should Know" and "What's the Buzz in Apiculture: Beekeeping in Milwaukee County. Discussion also included sharing the need for financial support for Supervisors to attend future WACEC Conferences. No county dollars were provided to attend the annual conference this year.

Information shared with Faye by Jeff Beyer, Public Works Director, is that room 300 at the MCOC will remain a teaching/meeting space.

The July office newsletter was distributed and used to update NREC members for their report at the July County Board meeting. The written report given by Pat Hollen, and the verbal report by Dr. Rudd are also pieces which could be used for a report.

Motion to adjourn by Andy Schneider, second by Melvin Waack. Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

The next meeting of the NREC is August 5, 2010 immediately following the ADRC Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Malek
Manitowoc County UW-Extension Department Director