The President of the Richfield Historical Society contacted Paul to facilitate a strategic planning process with the organization’s board. This was a follow-up request to an organizational assessment Paul conducted of the organization’s board in 2015. The Society’s mission is to discover, collect, preserve and promote the history of the Village of Richfield.

Paul facilitated a half-day planning session with 18 board members. As a result, 100% of the participants agreed that developing a vision statement assisted them in understanding the general direction for their organization’s future and 92% agreed that the process of identifying and prioritizing goals increased their ability to identify issues and set priorities.

Participants evaluated Paul’s facilitation as excellent (4.8 on a 5-point Likert Scale). One commented that Paul “Provided opportunity for all to be heard. Created a comfortable atmosphere to dig through the process.”

The board is currently reviewing the session notes and will discuss how to move forward with developing plans to accomplish their goals.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

Wed., Mar., 8th    Thinking Outside the Barn - Cabelas Richfield, 10am-2:30pm
Thu., Mar., 9th    Becoming a Manager of Choice - Public Agency Center, RM 3224, 1-3pm
Sat., Mar., 18th   Early Childhood Professional Development - 4C Family Center of Wash Co, 2376 W. Washington St., West Bend, WI, 8am-12pm
Sun., Mar., 19th   4-H Horse and Pony Project Tack Sale - Washington County Fair Park, 10am-3pm
Tue., Mar., 21st   County Fair Judge Training Webinar - Pre-registration required for online access, 6-8pm
Wed., Mar., 22nd   Becoming a Manager of Choice - Public Agency Center, RM 3005, 1-3pm
Thu., Mar., 23rd   Heart of the Farm - Millhome Supper Club, Kiel, 9 am-3pm
Sat., Mar., 25th   Wash. Co. 4-H Dog Project Fun Show - Washington County Fair Park, 8am-5pm

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
(UW-Extension Oversight Committee)

John Bulawa-Chair
Daniel Goetz-Vice Chair
Michael Miller-Secretary
Michael Parsons
Jeffrey Schleif

“Extending the knowledge and resources of the University of Wisconsin to people where they live and work.”

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and American with Disabilities (ADA) requirements.
Master Gardener Level 1 Training: On February 2nd, twenty-seven individuals started the classroom portion of becoming Certified Master Gardener Volunteers. Participants view training modules at home and then attend twelve consecutive weekly classes on a broad group of gardening topics. These classes feature hand-on activities that help them gain an understanding about the immense amount of knowledge behind these topics and the research based resources that these trained volunteers will use to help others.

Cattle Feeders Workshop: On February 21st, beef production and market experts from around the state spoke to 30 area producers on How Fed Cattle Traits Influence Buyer Interest, Nutrition from Weaning to Finish and Market Outlook and Factors Influencing Price Discovery.

Youth Tractor and Machinery Safety Course: Twenty male and female youth attended the first two weeks of the required 24 hours of training to allow them to operate a farm tractor on public roads or be employed on a non-family farm.

Building Financial Capability of Helping Professionals: Carol was approached by a Washington County Early Head Start (EHS) home visitor regarding which financial education materials would be most appropriate to use with families. Since clients frequently bring up financial concerns with home visitors during scheduled appointments, a financial training for EHS home visitors and other agencies (Friends, Inc., Human Services) was planned for January 2017. This training focused on financial competencies, such as setting goals, maximizing income, and saving. When staff members understand basic financial competencies themselves, they are more confident when working with clients with financial concerns and even their own finances. One participant stated “This truly opened my eyes to some of the things I need to work on in my financial struggles.”

In a post session evaluation, seven participants shared how they would apply the information: use a “coach” approach with clients to create a success vision; access resources and tools to help clients with budgeting and discuss how to access and read a credit report.

4-H New Family Orientation Welcomes New Members: In January, the Washington County 4-H Leaders Association hosts a New Family Orientation event to welcome new participants to the program. Youth and their parents/guardians join in a meal with experienced 4-H members and volunteers, then participate in sessions where they learn about 4-H opportunities and can ask questions about the program. 102 participants attended the 2017 orientation. 54 of those participants were youth. 24 youth and adult facilitators helped teach informational sessions during the program.

Feeding new foods to children can be a challenge. Young children may have to eat a new food 15 times before they eat it consistently. Educator Sarah Faust recently facilitated a session during which nine Head Start and Early Head Start families shared and acquired tips on successfully introducing new foods and making it fun for their children. 100% (26) learners tried edamame for the first time; 89% of the families said they would serve it at home; and 100% intended to use one or more child-feeding tips when introducing new foods. One family even intended to buy the newly sampled food immediately after the session!

Sarah also provided a session on nutrition basics to seven men in recovery at the Exodus House in Kewaskum, a new FoodWise partner. Feedback: “(session) helped me to think about what I do and could be eating.” “Good to learn how to portion meals.” “Very informative.”

Other programs provided by Sarah: adults via Human Services, The Threshold Inc., and WIC, and youth through Casa Guadalupe Education Center and Head Start. Programs led by Renee: adults through Aging and Disability Resource Center and Casa.