

**Eau Claire Area Master Gardeners  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, January 12, 2017  
Green Mill Restaurant  
6:30 PM**

**Members present:** Jerry Richards, Ellen Terwilliger, Nina Logan, Lori Kempen, Nancy Spak, Ede Strand, Mary Jane Griffin, Erin LaFaive, Carla Pelzl

**1. Election of officers:**

The first order of business was to elect a board member to fill the office of president. Mary Jane Griffin was willing to serve. Ellen Terwilliger moved that the board approve Mary Jane as our president, to serve a two-year term. The motion passed unanimously.

Jerry Richards was welcomed as a new board member.

**2. Secretary's report:**

The minutes of the December 2016 meeting were reviewed. Lori Kempen moved that they be accepted as written. Nina Logan seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

**3. Plant sale:**

Susan Mertens, Plant Sale Chairperson, was not present. However, she was contacted by phone and said that there was nothing new to report. The sale date is Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Phoenix Park pavilion. The Master Gardener Volunteers and Hosta Society members are hosting the sale jointly. Our members will be reminded to take precautions to avoid donating plants that might harbor jumping worms. Educational materials about jumping worms will be made available to the public.

**4. Treasurer's report:** Ede Strand

The ending balance as of December 31, 2016 was **\$13,214.00**. The most recent bank statements were not yet available. Our association's dues still need to be paid to the state organization. Nancy Spak moved that the treasurer's report be accepted. Lori Kempen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**5. Horticulture Educators report:** Erin LaFaive

Interviews for the Extension Office's Financial Assistant position vacancy will be conducted at the end of January. Erin has been filling that position in the interim, in addition to her duties as the Extension Horticulture Educator. She will present at the Wausau Garden Visions seminar on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Erin is also working on the annual report summarizing the youth programs and other educational events she has worked on as the County Extension Horticulture Educator.

**6. Education Committee report:** Nina Logan, Lori Kempen

The presentation for our February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting will be about raising back yard chickens. The education committee will be meeting to outline programs for the remainder of 2017. Carla Pelzl will join the committee. Suggestions for programs include arranging tours of the new Southside Community Gardens, touring Dick Lienhardt's vegetable garden, and container gardening for people who have limited garden space.

## **7. WIMGA Update:** Ellen Terwilliger

WIMGA is actively working on a three-year strategic plan. Ellen is involved with the group that is developing a MGV Speaker Repository (a state-wide speakers' bureau). Information about speakers such as expertise and background could be made available online.

Space at the Lismore Hotel has been reserved for the 2018 Wisconsin Master Gardener Conference. The conference dates are September 21-22. The state WIMGA will back up our "guarantee" with the Lismore. Both the state and hosting associations will provide some starter funds. Half of any profit will go to the state organization. Registration will be available through our website.

Volunteers from the several MGV associations hosting the conference will meet in March to begin planning and to divide up the various responsibilities.

## **8. Old business**

Nina Logan reported that registration for the Ready, Set, Grow! Seminar was up to 50. The deadline for early bird registration is January 20<sup>th</sup>. Door prize donations are coming in. There are about ten vendors attending so far; more are being sought.

## **9. New business**

**The 2017 Budget:** The board reviewed the budget worksheet provided by Ede and determined amounts for the various budget categories for 2017.

### **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

The next meeting will be February 9, 2017 at the Extension Office at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Carla Pelzl, Secretary