

Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 13, 2017
Extension Office
6:30 P.M.

In attendance: Mary Jane Griffin, Nancy Spak, Ede Strand, Dick Lienhardt, Nina Logan, Lori Kempen, Jerry Richards, Ellen Terwilliger, Carla Pelzl, Erin LaFaive

Call to order: President Mary Jane Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:40 P.M.

Plant Sale summary: Susan Merten had submitted a list of plant sale expenses, which came to \$204.50. She also listed the total number of plant donations at 860 plants. The inclement weather the day of the sale was a problem at Phoenix Park. There was discussion of where to hold the sale in 2018. One suggestion was moving back to the Expo Center where weather is not an issue, and maybe combining several organization's sales in one.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the May meeting were reviewed. Lori Kempen made a motion to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Nancy Spak; the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Ede Strand reported that the book balance stands at \$11,722.84. Ellen moved that the treasurer's report be accepted; seconded by Lori. The motion passed.

Horticulture Educator's Report: Erin LaFaive

- The County Facilities Director responded to our concerns regarding the building meeting rooms policy, which requires that a county staff person must be present in the building when organizations use meeting rooms after regular business hours. The suggestion offered by the director was to check on the possibility of using a room at the courthouse.
- The Extension Teaching Garden is nearly all planted. A display box holding brochures about the garden is available to passersby.
- The Youth Garden is all set. Three MGV's have volunteered to help.
- There were 25 people who attended the Earthbox workshop, and 30 boxes were given to participants. Mayo Healthcare System provided nine scholarships.
- Jeffers Road garden – 80 bales of straw were purchased for use as mulch. Each gardener was given one bale free and could buy one extra for \$4.00. Erin wants all the gardeners to mulch to help keep weeds down at that site.
- The office has had many questions about trees this season.
- \$468.98 was spent for supplies, soil, etc. for the three community/teaching gardens.
- The various regional extension directors will be announced soon.

Education Committee Report: Nina Logan, Lori Kempen

- The Garden 101 program presented by Darrell Reed on May 16th at the Altoona Library was well attended.
- Paula Bonnin will talk about growing roses at the Monday, July 13th education meeting at the Extension Building. She will also write an article about the program for the newsletter.
- August – Christina Beuning from Sunbow Farms will talk about beekeeping again, but this time will include how to get started, problems that might be encountered, etc.
- Garden tours – Dick Lienhardt's vegetable garden and the Southside Community Garden (when the gardens are ready). Ellen Terwilliger will offer a tour of her meadow garden and will invite via email.

All garden tours are open to both Master Gardener Volunteers and members of the Eau Claire Garden Club.

- September – A potluck and discussion of the garden season's hilites and lowlites. This meeting will be open only to MGV's.
- October – Kelly from Down to Earth nursery will talk about caring for houseplants.
- November – Ellen Terwilliger will talk about the trip she and Steve took to Costa Rica.
- December – annual meeting and potluck

WIMGA Report: Ellen Terwilliger

- The 2017 WIMGA State Conference is scheduled for October 13-14 in West Bend. The focus will be on Prairie Gardens. Online registration is not available. For information and to print the brochure and mail-in registration form, search for “WIMGA Conference 2017”.
- The 2018 State Conference will be September 21-22, Friday – Saturday, and is titled “Autumn at the River”.
- The WIMGA Mentoring Program is out on the WIMGA website, so our board can look at that and decide how we might use it with new MGV's.

Old Business

Bylaws : We completed our review of the bylaws and the secretary will make the necessary corrections. The final revision will be sent to our membership with an announcement of a vote to be taken at the July or August education meeting. Members with concerns or comments about the bylaws will be able to email them to the board.

Beaver Creek Plant Sale update: Nina reported that their sale day was a success, with native plants being a big seller.

Mentoring Program: It was decided to table that discussion until a Training Class is offered for new MGV's.

New Business

Location for Education Meetings: Our education meetings have been held the second Tuesday of the month. However, we could meet on a different night when a staff person could be present. Moving our education meetings to the third Monday of the month would allow Andy Heren to be the staff person present. We could also meet at the Altoona Library at times, if a staff person is not available to be at the meeting. It was decided that our Education meetings would be held on the third Monday of the month. Board meetings would continue to be the second Thursday of the month, unless we are notified otherwise by Erin.

The Junior 4-H Fair: Fair dates are July 27-31. The Ask-a-Master-Gardener booth will be at the fair during that time.

Motion to adjourn: Motion by Dick Lienhardt; seconded by Nancy Spak. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 P.M. Next meeting will be Thursday, July 13, 2017 at 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Carla Pelzl, Secretary