

**Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Association**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, May 11, 2017**  
**Extension Office**  
**6:30 pm**

**In attendance:** Dick Lienhardt, Lori Kempen, Mary Jane Griffin, Ellen Terwilliger, Jerry Richards, Nancy Spak, Nina Logan, Carla Pelzl, Erin LaFaive, Sue Mertens - Plant Sale Chairperson

**Plant Sale update:** Sue Mertens, Chairperson

Sue gave the board a very complete outline of where the committee is in terms of planning for the sale. Ads are being posted on Facebook, in the Leader-Telegram, through posters and postcard take-aways, the MG newsletter, press releases, and TV interviews, the Eau Claire Energy Co-op, Volume One, and WIMGA. Susan is keeping track of volunteers and assigning jobs. Educational literature about Jumping Worms will be available to customers. Other gardening-related items in addition to plants will also be sold.

**Secretary's Report:** Carla Pelzl

The minutes of the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting were distributed and reviewed. Ellen T. moved the minutes be accepted as written; Nancy S. seconded. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ede Strand

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. The beginning book balance as of 1/01/17 was \$12,772.32. The current balance is \$11,264.63. (The April bank statement was not yet available.)

Ede was unable to be present, but had asked the board to respond to the following questions:

- Can the \$150 budgeted for 4-H fair trophies be paid now? Yes – The board approved payment.
- The board has approved a memorial donation in memory of Rolf Uttegaard. When and to whom is that to be paid? Erin's response – The scholarship will be paid when the next training session for new MG trainees is offered.
- Should the \$500 grant request from UWEC for use in establishing the Children's Care Center garden be paid now? Erin's response: Yes, payment should be sent to the Children's Center Director, Lisa Coen. (The secretary will contact Lisa to make her aware that their grant request has been approved.)

**Horticulture Educator's Report:** Erin LaFaive

- Erin will conduct a Make & Take Box event June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10am – 11:30am at the Extension Office. Mayo Healthcare System helps off set the registration fee of \$25 per attendee.
- The North River Front Kids' Garden will begin in June, Monday, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9:00am. A Teens' Gardening Program may be held at the Extension Office.
- Clearwater Care Center (formerly the Clairement Care Center) has requested help with their garden. MG's would be working with their clients, and the program would have an educational focus.
- Erin is hoping to get jumping worm information on the radio. She is also working with public access TV on information about pruning grapes and fruit trees.
- The Extension Office has a new Fiscal Associate, Christy Peterson. This frees Erin from her duties as Interim Fiscal Associate.
- The office has been handling many phone calls requesting gardening information.
- The Jeffers Road garden has been tilled
- CVTC has awarded the two \$500 horticulture student scholarships funded by ECAMGA.
- The UWEC Children's Center Nature Academy has prepped and planted a garden area.
- The Wisconsin Extension reorganization outline has been distributed. Regional directors

- will take over several counties each. Erin's exact duties are not yet determined
- New Extension building policy: Staff must be present if community groups, etc. are meeting.

**Education Committee Report:** Lori Kempen, Nina Logan

May 16 – Darrel Reed, “Gardening 101” - at the Altoona Library

June 11 – Plant Sale, Phoenix Park Pavilion

July – Paula Bonnin, Growing Roses

July or August – Dick Lienhardt, Garden Tour (When garden and weather both cooperate)

Other possible summer garden tours – the new South Side Community Garden, the Demmler

Community Garden (ECAMGV had donated money to them for garden improvements), the Lincoln Avenue Garden, Ellen Terwilliger's Meadow Gardener

End of September – possibly end-of-season gardening tips

October – Kelly from Down to Earth, Houseplants

November – Ellen Terwilliger, Costa Rica trip and gardens

**WIMGA Report:** Ellen Terwilliger

- County MG associations are asked to donate items or money for the silent auction. Lori K. suggested a \$75 donation. Nancy S. made a motion to that effect; seconded by Dick L. Motion passed.

- A Mentoring Program for new volunteers has been proposed. Experienced MGV's would work with new volunteers. A one-page position description has been written. (further discussion tabled)

Ellen mentioned that Erin LaFaive has been nominated for a Green Award, for promoting sustainability throughout the community in various ways. The nomination was made by the City of Eau Claire Sustainability Advisory Committee.

**Old Business: ECAMGA By-Laws**

The board completed review and revision of the ECAMGA bylaws. Ellen Terwilliger was thanked for making the suggested changes on her laptop computer during the discussion. The revised document will be sent to board members for their review and final approval.

**New Business**

Beaver Creek Reserve Native Plant Sale – May 13<sup>th</sup>

Mentoring program for new MGV's (mentioned in Ellen's WIMGA report, but tabled until the next meeting due to a need to finish revising the by-laws.)

Eau Claire County Jr. 4-H Fair – July 27-31. MGV's host an Ask a Master Gardener table.

Our **next meeting** will be Tuesday, June 13, 2017, 6:30 pm at the Extension Office.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carla Pelzl, Secretary