

**NORTH COUNTRY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS
MEETING MINUTES
27 SEPTEMBER 2018**

Members present included Donna Amidon, Vicki Gee-Treft, Russ Parker, Sheila Squires, Yvonne Koch-Prochner, Nancy Reis, Carol Taylor, Deb Studley, Cindy Lawson, Ed Jacobsen, Barb Boatman, Lynn Ford, Sue Reinardy, Sharon Tarras, Terri Johnson, Mark Fox, Linda Zillmer, Tony Webber, Kevin Schoessow and Roseann Meixelsperger.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM by Donna Amidon.

Meeting minutes from August 23rd, 2018 were approved.

Treasurer's Report for August 2018 was presented by Sheila.

Beginning Balance =	\$3,787.36
Less Expenses to:	
LHW Portable restrooms	(130.00)
Kathryn Schiedermayor	(31.71)
Nikki Halverson	(30.00)
Vicki Gee-Treft	(6.57)
Sheila Squires for gift cards	(335.60)
Plus: Twilight Garden Tour Donation	140.00
\$100 Cut Flower Arranging, \$40 Girl Scouts	
Ending Balance =	\$2,393.48

Sheila distributed the 2018 NCMGV Budget as of 8/31/2018. Discussion on UW-Extension supporting MGV's activities. Kevin stated the UW-Extension wants to demonstrate support for the Master Gardener program and continue receiving funding for the program. Carol commented that originally the reason for budgeting was to determine costs for a program. Consensus is to keep track of our costs separate from the UW-Extension.

Old Business: Donna reminded MGV's to get their hours in by submitting their timesheets to Lorraine. Vicki mentioned the MGV Trainees have until June 2019 to acquire their 24 hours to maintain their active status and be officially certified—and turning in their volunteer hours acquired through Sept 2018 is requested for our fiscal calendar stats. Donna showed an exemption form would be used by MGVs who did not volunteer 24 hours during Oct 1, 2017 to Sept 30, 2018 or did not accrue their contingent education hours. Both the exemption form and the timesheet are available online.

New Business: None

Committee Reports:

Twilight Garden Tour for 2019 will be Tuesday, August 13, 4:00-7:00 Discussion as to whether our vegetables will be ready by that date. Better communication to the cooks will help so they can get vegetables on time from other places if needed. Question on whether Seed to Kitchen will be on the same date again next year? Kevin may move that event to another date. Motion by Sharon to accept the August 13, 2019 date for the Twilight Garden Tour. Second by Donna. Motion carries unanimously.

Meet Me in the Garden 9/8 Recap: Many MGV's in the room complimented Sue R. on the wonderful day. Sue also felt it had been successful.

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Geocaching event 9/7 report: Russ stated +30 people attended. Russ set up 9 caches with an educational aspect. Each cache contained a slip with a question on it that the finder of the cache had to answer. *Liatris Spicata* from the Cut flower garden were given as gifts. Russ spent some MGV dollars for the Pot Luck. Next year he will have the program scheduled in the morning, so that we don't incur food costs.

AAS contest application: Roseann reported this was her first year filling out the actual paperwork and gathering supplemental materials, such as photos and garden layouts. Roseann thanked Vicki and Katie for their work on the specific wording used in the application. Consensus to send to the membership so all can see the scope of this project. Roseann volunteered to do this.

AAS Garden Cleanup and plans for cover crops, harvesting vegetables and delivering them: Russ planted oats and daikon radishes as cover crops. Compost was worked into the soil. Kevin stated that a composite soil sample was taken as it's been approximately 12 years without amendment in that area of the garden. Linda Z. spoke about mulching. Some areas will have straw to over winter. Two of the beds will have plastic cover over the winter. A news release on the garden project will be forthcoming. Sharon T. stated that Phil of the UW-Extension showed her a possible garden layout which Sharon showed the MGV's. Discussion on loss of vegetable area. Reminders that we still have Seed to Table for the food shelves, and that our mission is to teach with our gardens.

Motion by Sharon to approve the cut from the upper left corner and to remove shrubs (*Aronia* and *hydrangea*). Second by Barb. Motion carries unanimously.

Children and Youth Programs: Roseann gave a status report and will be scheduling a meeting to discuss the 2019 program. We are waiting to see if we will receive a WIMGA grant for 2019.

Signage: No report

Seed Starting, Saving, and Plant Maintenance: Russ has set a date of Tuesday, October 9th starting at 9 AM. All are invited to help. As far as GH cleanup day it will encompass the following;

1. Sorting of pots, sanitizing (bleach or Physan 20) for next plant sale, bagging, inventory and relocating to the potato shed or other.
2. General GH organization
3. Sanitizing the GH with Physan 20. Consider pulling up the landscape fabric, to be replaced (?). A decision on this will depend on what I learn from talking to the manufacturer of the Physan 20 product. The entire GH may be sprayed later.
4. General discussion about how to preclude the potential for GH transmitted disease, establish GH practices for transplanting, etc.
5. Consider improvements/repair: benches, replacement vent cylinders, other.

Publicity and Marketing: No report.

Communication to Public and Members/handbook/newsletter/website.

Sue is working on our Annual Achievements reports and photos. Roseann stated she has 2 for Washburn County – one on the Kids in the Garden, and one by Nikki H. on a Tomato sphere project she worked on with the 4th graders at Spooner Elementary. Reports are due to Sue by October 15th. Sue will submit them to the State on 11/1.

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MGV Training Update: No report.

Election of 2019 Officers and Board Members: Donna reviewed the slate as follows:

Board: Vicki has another year left of her term. Russ would like to continue. Mark has agreed to run for the other board position.

Lynn Ford has agreed to run for secretary.

Roseann has agreed to run for VP.

Carol T. has been VP and will become president in October 2018 when Donna's term expires.

Sheila will continue her term as Treasurer for one more year.

Motion by Deb to cast a unanimous vote for the slate of nominees. Second by Sharon. Motion carries unanimously.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Friday, September 28th from 9 AM to 11 AM Field trip day by K-12 Washburn County Home School Educators students & parents: Vicki stated we have 66 attendees registered including parents. Tour site & activities/demonstrations, such as those in Kids in the Garden, mini-master and middle/high school service learning, SARS conference room will be the backup in case of bad weather.

Webster High School High Tunnel project: Donna will call and get more information for us on this project.

Northwoods Charter School in Minong: One of their teachers, Brian Olson, made the following request.

"This fall we are working on a health and wellness unit including healthy eating and growing your own food. We'd love to talk with you about sharing the produce and anything else we could do to partner with you. Our school garden and green house is under-utilized so that might be a great place to start."

Educational Opportunities:

WIMGA Conference September 21-22: Donna stated 10 of our MGV's attended the conference that was held in Eau Claire. Yvonne discussed NCMGV's getting involved in a future conference. We do not have the venue. Would look at Superior or Ashland. Duluth would have additional hotels if we had a conference in Superior. If we get involved with the fall WIMGA conference it would involve teaming up with MGV associations in those or other areas. There could be some revenue associated with helping organize and set up this event. Could be a small new revenue funding in the Fall resource for us.

Volunteer Vibe: Many educational opportunities available to MGV's. This is a monthly e-letter exclusively for certified and intern MGVs.

Master Food Preserver Program: Linda Z. asked if there was any interest in a Master Food Preserver Program. Haven't had one since 2006. Must demonstrate interest. Blogs? Ideas? Press Release? Linda will coordinate with the Area Director. Request to keep a list of interested people. In the past, they met for about 3 days. See Linda if you're interested in this.

Final Remarks from President: Donna thanked all who have helped her while she has been our President. Specifically, Carol who has already requested a Board meeting right away. There are a lot of meetings and organizing of communities. Thanks to Roseann and Sheila for their continued Officer membership. Thanks to Russ who is our "go to" person. Thanks to Vicki who is almost in a full-time job with her Board membership. Thanks to Tony for the history of the organization. Thanks to Sue R. for the handbook, web and blogs. Thanks to Janet and Roseann for their WIMGA membership and liaison to us. It has been fun to see the new MG's – their creativity in new AAS themed designs. It is important they attend meetings. Please keep looking at this issue and consider some Saturday activities to give them the opportunity to be more involved, as many of them are working. Need to keep looking at the future.

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Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM. We then went on to enjoy our pot luck.

Next Membership Meeting is on Thursday, October 25th at 5:30 pm – please note the new time.

Reminder on options for members who can't attend meetings: WisLine Anytime Service can handle up to 50 phone lines. Members who cannot come to meetings can listen to the meetings live via WisLine (by phone). All you must do is contact Lorraine (715-635-3735) in advance of the meeting and she will give the member the number to call and the code to enter so they can listen in to the meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann Meixelsperger, Secretary