

North Country Master Gardener Volunteer Association (NCMGVA)  
Membership Meeting of February 28, 2019

Attendance: Amanda Kupisch, Carla TePaske, Carol Taylor, Ed Jacobsen, Linda Anderson, Pam Davies, Roseann Meixelsperger (via phone), Sheila Squires, Sue Reinardy, Terri Johnson, Vicki Gee-Treft & staff Kevin Schoessow

President Taylor called the business meeting to order at 5:40 and thanked Mark Nupren of the Friends of the Namekagon Barrens Wildlife Area for his presentation with photos of the Northwest Wisconsin Barrens, encompassing 26,000 acres, describing its history and significant landscape, wildlife and plants. Nupren extended an invitation to engage with their organization, use facilities, and attend their July 13 membership meeting. Taylor also invited the Friends to participate in our August 13 Twilight Garden Tour. Contact information is 651-249-1013 & [marknupen@gmail.com](mailto:marknupen@gmail.com).

OLD BUSINESS:

Minutes of the January membership meeting were moved for approval by Gee-Treft and seconded by Anderson. Treasurer Squires reported January's beginning balance of \$1,844.18, expenses of \$94.69 related to the plant sale, and ending balance of \$1,749.49.

Plant Sale Update included review of a brochure promoting the herb 6-pack, in addition to the pollinator 6-pack; a request for plant photos to use at the plant sale; and planned promotional efforts (press release, website, blog posts).

The Level 1 MGVA Training application deadline is March 1, and about half of the 13 individuals, who expressed signing up, have actually submitted their forms and funds. With a minimum of 10 trainees to warrant conducting the training, a drop-dead deadline of March 5 for applications will determine whether the training will happen Tuesday evenings, March 26 through June 18.

See our events and meetings on our website's Google Calendar. The following volunteer opportunities were announced:

- August 6, 10:00, Hudson Home & Garden Club garden visit
- August 17, morning, Geocaching event in the garden
- August 18, afternoon, Burnett County 4H Families garden visit
- September 6, 9:30-11:30, Washburn County home school families garden visit
- September 6, 1:00-3:00, Burnett/Polk/Barron counties home school families

NEW BUSINESS:

Continuing Education Opportunities:

- April 8 attend a Horticultural Inquiries training in Menomonie—Donna Amidon, Carol Taylor, Janet Mangold, Linda Zillmer & Roseann Meixelsperger interested.

- April 6 attend Barron County's Spring Expo, call 715-537-6256 for reservation.
- View Brian Hudelson's advanced MGV online presentations at <https://pddc.wisc.edu/master-gardener-resources/>

#### WIMGA Presentation:

Attending a WIMGA meeting, Janet Mangold was unable to provide a presentation. Kevin suggested Sue Reinardy update members on Mike Maddox's recent presentation that they attended:

- Request all MGVs log into the Online Recording system and set up their account.
- Kevin needs to identify and put our approved-by-him MGV projects/activities into categories, so we can eventually enter our hours in the recording system.
- WIMGA is changing its by-laws, and volunteer associations will need to adjust their by-laws.
- The WIMGA newsletter will only be distributed electronically—no longer paper.
- Branding is being discussed and caution advised, e.g., University of Wisconsin, Division of Extension, Master Gardener Volunteer Program.

#### Kevin Updates:

With new Extension Service staff, Kevin has interested them in using the Teaching & Display Garden with their clientele. Kevin offered a discussion on how to keep volunteers active, who might not be able to physically garden, as well as encouraging MGVs in Burnett & Sawyer counties to invite Washburn County MGVs to participate in their projects and list them in our handbook calendar. With regard to the Twilight Garden Tour, staff PJ Liesch & Brian Hudelson have been invited to participate.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 28, 5:30 pm, at SARS.

Submitted by Gee-Treft