

## NORTH COUNTRY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION MEETING

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 24, 2019

In attendance: Lynnette Swensson-Duh, Gail Sengbusch, Carol Taylor, Terri Johnson, Roseann Meixelsperger, Nancy Reis, Sheila Squires, Carla TePaske, Kathryn Schidermayer, Naomi Fogelberg, Joanna Bernat, Vicki Gee-Treft, Rio Sokup, Russ Parker and Lynn Ford. Attending via WIS Line: Mark Fox, Sue Reinardy, Janet Mangold, Pam Davies, Donna Amidon and Cindy Lawson.

Our meeting was called to order by our President, Carol Taylor, at 5:30

Minutes of the October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting were approved by a motion from Roseann and seconded by Sheila.

Carol welcomed our new and returning Master Gardener to another year.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by our Treasurer, Sheila Squires, and is attached for review.

#### **Old Business:**

Sue Reinardy will send a list of members to Sheila so that a check to cover membership dues in WIMGA can be sent for each MGV at \$5 per volunteer.

Volunteer hour reporting will all be done electronically this year. For each MGV, please go on to the Master Gardener website and create your profile.

Linda Zillmer will be working on cleaning the greenhouse.

Sheila and Carla presented a report on the Plant Sale Committee status. In addition to the tomatoes and peppers, we will be selling native 6 packs and herb 6 packs.

Master Gardener awards were presented. Russ received a dash plaque for having accumulated 2,500 hours of service over his lifetime as an MGV. For volunteer recognition purposes, Vicki would like feedback on listing Master Gardeners in the handbook and/or on the website in categories, i.e., those who have accrued 1-49 hours, 50-99 hours and 10+ hours.

Please give any Handbook Updates that you may have to Sue Reinardy.

#### **New Business:**

A discussion was held regarding the Board of Director's Recommendations for the upcoming year.

Russ is looking into a submersible pump and the costs involved. He will be talking with Barron Electric about the costs to bring in electric to it.

Sheila passed out a proposed budget for 2019. We had \$1,844 left over from 2018. We make approximately \$5,000 from the plant sale which is our primary income generator.

A discussion was held as to the possibility of having a blog rather than a newsletter. Sue R. noted that the increased traffic with the blog and website, having 576 visitors to 1400 pages in the last two weeks and that the SARS' Facebook is the top referrer to the website. There was consensus to discontinue the newsletter due to the success of the blog, website and Facebook traffic.

We will be leaving the fee for MGV training classes at \$125 for this year. Training class will begin March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

A discussion was held about having a booth at the Farmer's Market this summer. We would like to have two volunteers at a time to man the booth. The Farmer's Market runs from mid June to October 1<sup>st</sup>. We could have a laptop running to show our website. There will also be forms for anyone having questions to fill out, so that the persons manning the booth do not have to answer them right there.

Twilight Garden Tour will be held August 13, 2019.

We are looking for someone to take on the management of the AAS garden to schedule the watering, weeding, and etc. Vicki will not be manager this year, but will support him/her. We will need a point person for AAS to keep in touch with newsletters and communications. AAS wants more accountability going forward.

Sue R. could use a co-chair for Meet me in the Garden. Kathryn Scheidermayer said she would talk to Sue.

### **Volunteer Opportunities:**

Roseanne spoke about the Kid's in the Garden program. The age has been changed this year to include children ages 3 to 12. There will be a yoga day to include a goat and a dog. The sign ups will be this spring.

Kevin talked about the Food Wise educator from Webster and Siren. She has food models and cards available for MGV's to use to do presentations along with easy questions for Kindergarten or Preschool children. MGV's could use this as a volunteer opportunity.

Barron County Spring Expo at Rice Lake April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Webster School District Movable Hoop Garden

Family Fest first Saturday in June at the Fairgrounds

Mini Master Gardener March 30<sup>th</sup>

Home School Field Trip (Vicki, Carol & Russ) in September

Bennet Garden Club visit August 16<sup>th</sup>.

4H Burnett County Family Visit August 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>. They are interested in doing Geo Caching too.

A list of who has signed up for committees so far will be sent out. Anyone wishing to join a committee may contact Carol Taylor at [caroltaylor20@gmail.com](mailto:caroltaylor20@gmail.com) with questions.

Kevin spoke about the reorganization going on within the UW Extension. UW Extension merged with UW Madison. The MG logo did not change, but the Extension logo did.

The next meeting will be held February 28<sup>th</sup>. Mark Nupen from Friends of the Namekagon Barrens will speak at 5:15 prior to our meeting at 5:30.

Submitted by:

Lynn Ford, Secretary

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