

**NORTH COUNTRY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS
MEETING MINUTES
26 AUG 2021**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Roseann Meixelsperger at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Attendance: Deb Studley, Donna Amidon, Jill Fries, Vicki Gee-Treft, Janet Mangold, Linda Anderson, Terri Johnson, Roseann Meixelsperger, Pam Davies, Sue Reinardy, Linda Zillmer, Sandy Niewinski and Kevin Schoessow.

Secretary's Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the July 22, 2021 minutes as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Roseann reported a bank balance of \$891.44.

Board Matters: The slate of nominations are listed below with elections in September.

President	Vacant
Vice-President	Jill Fries
Treasurer	Jill Schmalz-Washkuhn
Board Members	Linda Anderson and Donna Amidon

Article VIII, Section 5b of the By-Laws: Vacancies in office may be filled at any monthly association meeting, provided that nominations are taken from the floor and the replacement officer is elected by a majority vote of the members present.

Audit: Jill Fries still plans to complete an audit of the checkbook.

Website, blogs and Facebook: No new reports. Sue will update the website now that the TGT is over.

Volunteer Opportunities: The Northern Wisconsin Memorial Veteran's Cemetery asked for assistance in designing a shade garden on the grounds. The Lions Club in Shell Lake has agreed to complete the annual plantings in the spring before the Memorial Day programs.

Horticultural Inquiries: Linda reported no new inquiries. She mentioned the problems she had with brown aphids this year on false sunflower plants. Japanese beetles have also shown up in the demonstration garden grapes.

Twilight Garden Tour Recap: Donna reported about 75 visitors and 22 MGV participants. Nineteen evaluations were submitted. Most people learned about the tour through word of mouth from MGV's. Most liked the speakers and appreciated the tents. Lions Club did a great job with parking and are interested in assisting in the future. Roseann inquired about a place where all photos could be stored together. Sue suggested a Google drive associated with <http://northcountrymgv.org>.

Garden Tool Donations: A former MG from Spooner has donated her personal collection of garden tools. Shovels and hoes not usable for the demonstration garden will be stored in the sheep barn for anyone who would like to take them. (Photo attached)

Garden Harvesting: Ashley will be picking the produce and maintaining records. Kevin will send out a notice to food shelves and volunteers will be taking produce to other locations.

Fall Garden Clean-Up: September 25th from 9:00 a.m. to noon and October 2nd 9:00 to noon if another day is needed.

Master Gardener Foundations in Horticulture Training: The new class begins September 12th and the registration is full. Two people in Sawyer County and two from Barron County have signed up. Roseann contacted Mike Maddox to see if WIMGA could provide any scholarships for next year's class registration. The idea will be taken under consideration.

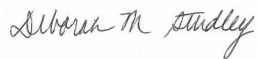
Intern Thank You: Roseann suggested that \$50 gift cards be purchased for each intern. A motion was made by Jill and seconded by Donna to purchase the gift cards. Motion approved. Thank you cards will be printed out by Sue Reinardy with photos from the display garden.

Melon Tasting: Julie Dawson will conduct a melon tasting on Monday, August 30th from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the display garden. **RSVP to Kevin if you are interested in the taste testing.** See his comments below:

- We are setting up a melon tasting for Monday Aug 30 from 3-5pm out in the Display Garden at the Spooner Ag Research Station.
- All tasters will be given up to six pieces of melon to evaluate.
- You will be asked to rate your feedback on overall appearance, sweetness, bitterness, texture, etc.
- The tasting will take about 20 minutes of your time and each participant will be given a free melon to take home as a thank you gift. (while supplies last)
- Please keep in mind we are following COVID safety protocols. Please bring a mask. We are asking participants to wear a mask, when picking up your taste samples. Once you pick up your melon samples for tasting, you can take your masks off and find a place to sit and fill out your evaluation sheet.
- Also, if you know other serious eaters who appreciate local foods and want to participate bring them along.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Deb Studley
Secretary