

NORTH COUNTRY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS MINUTES MAY 27, 2021

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

Present were Lorraine Toman, Deb Studley, Donna Amidon, Jessie Crane, Terri Johnson, Sandy Niewinski, Jill Fries, Sue Reinardy, Roseann Meixelsperger, Vicki Gee-Treft, Linda Anderson, Barb Boatman, Kevin Schoessow, Janet Mangold and our speaker Jennifer Lazewski.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the April 22, 2021 as submitted by Sue Reinardy. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report: Barb Boatman reported a bank balance of \$1,245.22 which she verified with the bank. Roseann requested that the checkbook records be audited in August. Because Barb's term ends in 2021 which will necessitate nominations in September for a new treasurer.

Seed Starting and Greenhouse Updates:

- Roseann reported that Kevin picked up the AAS plants started in Madison.
- Volunteers needed to harden off and water those plants until planting time.
- Russ will take pinwheel #4 for a tomato planting from seeds donated as a memorial.
- We are not participating in the AAS Garden Contest this year; however, the theme is "Diversity in the Garden" which we can use as appropriate.
- Susan Reichter and Nancy Reis will be responsible for the Childrens' Garden.
- Roseann would appreciate a volunteer to help her with the Sensory Garden.
- Planting day is tentatively set up for Monday, June 7th from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.
- A watering rotation needs to be set up.
- Garden helpers this summer will be two women working part-time to full time floating between the demonstration garden and the Seed to Kitchen area. They will be supervised by Phil and Kevin. Any requests we have of these employees should go through Phil or Kevin.

Website, Blogs and Facebook: Sue Reinardy reports little electronic traffic at the present time.

Volunteer Opportunities: Sandy Niewinski reported on these activities:

- Family Fest in Spooner, Saturday, June 5th – 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
- Garden plot volunteers
- Spooner Middle School garden assistance
- A volunteer to save tomato seeds from the plants started by Russ
- Jill Fries volunteered to get a spring 2022 MG class started

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Twilight Garden Tour: Donna Amidon made the following suggestions:

- TGT tentative date set for August 24, 2021
- No food served because of Covid-19 restrictions
- Need to abide by the Division of Extension Covid-19 Safety Policy
- Mike Maddox has intimated that restrictions may lessen in upcoming weeks
- Keep the educational offerings to local people with expertise
- Invite an arborist who is familiar with fruit trees
- Invite someone familiar with soil amendments for our area
- Provide a manned horticultural inquiry table
- Provide a person with expertise in perennial garden concepts
- Provide a manned informational table to recruit new MG volunteers

The business portion of the meeting ended at 6:15 PM.

Continuing Education Session: A presentation was made by Jennifer Lazewski who is a Southeast Wisconsin Master Gardener Volunteer and founder of its Pollinator Group. She provided a slide presentation showing the types of flowers that bees and other pollinators are attracted to and how they gather pollen. She explained about the crucial role that bees play in local ecosystems and food production. The presentation ended at 7:15 PM allowing for 1 CE hour for reporting purposes.

Lorraine reported that she is in the Ag. Extension Office full days every Tuesday and has until the end of August to return full time.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 24th at 5:30 PM via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,



Deb Studley
Secretary