

**NORTH COUNTRY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS ASSOC.
MEETING MINUTES
25 AUG 2022**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Vice-President Jill Fries from the Spooner Ag. Station.

Attendance: Present at the station and online through Zoom were: Jill Fries, Linda Zillmer, Donna Amidon, Jill Washkuhn, Vicki Gee-Treft, Kevin Schoessow, Janet Mangold, Jessie Crane, Terri Johnson and Deb Studley.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made by Vicki and seconded by Donna to approve the corrected July 28, 2022, minutes. Motion approved.

Election Slate: Jill will set a date for the Board to meet and compile a slate of nominees for the open officer/director positions before the September meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Jill Washkuhn reported a bank balance of \$3,035.04. An audit will be conducted before the year-end meeting.

WIMGA Update: Janet reported there are openings in northern and western districts for local reps. and board members. We need more leadership from our area. Janet has job descriptions for those interested. Required meetings are 2-4 times a year, usually on Zoom, for 1½ hours.

Twilight Garden Tour Review: The weather was perfect and at least 190 people attended. Forty-nine evaluations were turned in. The registration table needs to be set up to better funnel people to the registration/sign-in table. Donna reported there were many positive comments from attendees. Having the speakers under a tent with seating was appreciated. As the sun lowered in the sky there was need for more shading. Maybe a drop-down shade can be provided next time. The seed to kitchen melon sampling was located too far away for some people. (The evaluation results are included with the minutes.)

Suggestions for Future: Donna suggested that photos be taken of all individual projects during the year to highlight NCMGVA activities with a display at the TGT. Projects could include any planting/weeding/signage/clean-up work at the teaching and display garden, planting/maintaining the pinwheel and children's garden, Fort Folle Avione gardens, county fairs, seed starting/transplanting, mulching, plant sale, seed to kitchen planting/harvesting and produce donations, walking tours, providing educational programs at library, etc. An activity area for kids could be developed. More emphasis on the Monarch & Pollinator Sanctuary could be developed.

Interns & Station Staff: Both interns were very helpful this season and Lorraine's ability to provide tasting samples from the garden and homemade wine was appreciated along with station staff assisting with setting up tents/tables/chairs. The tractor/wagon ride to view the station's research trial plots was informational. \$50 gift cards for the interns and Lorraine will be delivered with our thanks.

Teaching & Display Garden Produce: Kevin feels there should be at least three weeks to harvest vegetables before a hard frost. Bi-weekly picking on Monday and Wednesday mornings is recommended. Produce can be held in the cooler until distribution to food shelves.

Garden Clean Up Date: Tentative date for garden clean-up was scheduled for October 8th.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Jessie reported receiving a call from the Northern WI Veteran Cemetery regarding clean up of their gardens. In the past the Spooner Garden Club was involved but their group has disbanded due to health and age issues.
- Spooner Senior Center (Dawn Dunsmore) would like presentations on gardening topics for that age group. Mondays after lunch, Tuesday mornings, first or third Thursdays. Sue Reinardy has power point presentations that others can use if there is technology capability at the site.
- Creative writer to write up a post-TGT article for the local papers with photos. It was suggested to contact Kimberly Kayler.

Horticulture Inquiries: None

Upcoming Events:

- Kevin suggested a garden walk on Saturday after TGT with MGV's available to assist with inquiries. Keep the big tent up.
- Board Meeting will be scheduled soon to develop a slate of nominees for open officer/board positions.

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 22nd at 5:30 PM at the Spooner Ag. Station and Zoom.

Potluck: End of year potluck on October 27th at 5:30 PM at the Spooner Ag. Station.

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah Studley
Secretary