

**NORTH COUNTRY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER ASSOC.  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
23 Jun 2022**

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Jill Fries at 5:34 p.m. in the Spooner teaching and display garden.

Present were Jessie Crane, Deb Studley, Jill Washkuhn, Jill Fries, Donna Amidon, Terri Johnson, Linda, Zillmer, Sue Reinardy, Janet Mangold and Kevin Schoessow.

The May minutes were approved as written.

The agenda was approved as written.

**Review of Officers' Terms and Fall Elections:** Upcoming elections for officers and board members will take place at the annual meeting in September with new terms beginning in January. Open positions will be for President, Vice-President, Secretary and one Director. The association fiscal year was changed to January – December with By-Law changes approved 25 Mar 2021.

**Watering Instructions:** Kevin explained the windmill process of getting water to the tank and back out to the faucet valves. The 500 gallon tank is elevated 15 feet above ground. Recommendation to fill the tank when there is wind and turning off the valves before leaving the garden.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jill W. reported a balance of \$3,035.04. The porta-potty was ordered for August 22-24 to accommodate the TGT.

**WIMGA Update:** There was a state-wide WIMGA meeting via Zoom on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Decisions were made to reduce the number of committees and focus on updating and improving the website, social media and newsletter. Committees will be working on innovative projects and educational outreach along with the public relations issues. The state WIMGA Treasurer, Byron Hacker, passed away June 21, 2022, in Chilton, Wisconsin. A fall gardening presentation will be sponsored by WIMGA via Zoom on July 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**Perennial Beds:** Discussed identifying plants in the perennial garden that can be divided, potted up and labeled to sell at the TGT. Members may also provide labeled, potted plants from personal gardens to sell. Also suggestion of selling either certified seeds or seeds from the pollinator garden. More discussion at next meeting in July.

**Children's Garden:** Roseann would like to establish a lending library offering children's gardening books.

**Pinwheel Gardens:** The gardens this year have a combination flower garden/edible theme. Mulch and organic material has been applied to increase plant health. Different types of mulch will be demonstrated: rye straw, pine straw, shredded paper, leaf mold and chopped leaves.

**Twilight Garden Tour:** Donna Amidon reviewed list of speakers which represent:

- Hunt Hill
- Seed to Kitchen - graduate student
- Brian Hudelson – UW-Madison, plant pathology
- Renee Essenmacher - DNR forester, buckthorn and oak wilt
- UW-Extension Food Wise Program

Russ Parker has agreed to help with set up. Nancy Reis will be in charge of food tasting areas. Jill Fries asked if there is an issue with salsa made in private homes and not a certified kitchen.

Website, blogs and Facebook – Sue Reinardy is working on new blog ideas and advertisement for the TGT.

**Online Reporting System (ORS)** – Reminder to all volunteers to complete reporting hours for Continuing Education after complying with all forms and background check requirements.

Kevin reported that a “Three Sisters” garden will be planted at the south end of the teaching and display garden with an LCO teachable moment sign. Laura Merchant from LCO will be the contact. The Yellow River running south of the display garden was a travel area of the Ojibiwa and the adjacent lands were part of their culture.

A suggestion was made to advertise the amount of produce given to area food shelves from the Seed to Kitchen Gardens. The Food Wise demonstration table would be a good place to provide this information.

Another suggestion for the TGT was to have a drawing to receive free community supported agriculture (CSA) boxes of produce from the Seed to Kitchen Gardens.

The next meeting will be Thursday, July 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the Ag. Station or display garden.

Respectfully submitted,



Deborah Studley  
Secretary