

**NORTH COUNTRY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
22 JUL 2021**

The meeting was called to order by President Roseann Meixelsperger at 5:30 p.m. at the Ag. Station display garden in Spooner, WI.

The following people were in attendance: Linda Zillmer, Terrie Strand, Barb Boatman, Deb Studley, Sue Reinardy, Terri Johnson (and friend), Donna Amidon, Roseann Meiselsperger, Nancy Reis, Yvonne Koch-Proctor, Jessie Crane, Vicki Gee-Treft and Kevin Schoessow.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes of the June 24, 2021, minutes were approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Barb Boatman reported a bank balance of \$891.44.

**Audit Committee:** Jill Fries will audit the checkbook against the bank records in August.

**Board Matters:** Volunteers are needed to fill positions of President, Vice-President, Treasurer and one Board member for the year beginning January 1, 2022. Nominations take place in August with elections in September. Jill Fries is willing to be nominated for the Vice-President position. Donna Amidon, Jessie Crane and Linda Anderson are also willing to be nominated for the Board position.

**Organization Matters:** If we are unable to find volunteers to be nominated for President and Treasurer, we cannot continue as a viable MGV group according to our By-Laws. There was a lengthy discussion on what our options would be including just becoming horticultural volunteers with no ties to WIMGA.

**Master Gardener Program Volunteer Training:** We all recently became aware that future master gardener volunteer training will only be offered through an on-line training program called Foundations in Horticulture offered through the University of Wisconsin, Division of Extension. The cost is \$299.00 plus extra fees for optional labs and a printed, bound version of the training manual. The registration deadline for this fall's class is August 13, 2021, which begins September 11<sup>th</sup> and ends December 11<sup>th</sup>. After completing the FIH training, a person wishing to participate in master gardener volunteer training would need to register and complete the Master Gardener Program Volunteer Onboarding course. After completion of that course, the person would be directed to their regional extension agent. ***Not all counties are able to support volunteers in the Master Gardener Program and not all counties are accepting new volunteers at this time. Burnett, Sawyer and Washburn counties are accepting new volunteers at this time. Barron county currently is not listed as accepting new volunteers but may in the near future.***

**Teaching and Display Garden planting:** Planting day was June 7<sup>th</sup>. Paid staff water during the week and volunteers signed up for a weekend watering schedule to last through the end of the season. The gardens are doing well.

**Website, blogs and Facebook:** Sue has published information on the Foundations in Horticulture training on the <http://www.northcountrymgv.org> website and similar information has been posted on the Ag. Station Facebook page along with an invite to visit the teaching and display gardens through a YouTube video.

**Volunteer Opportunities:** The Relatives as Parents group will be touring the gardens on August 19<sup>th</sup> and the Stone Lake Garden Club on August 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Twilight Garden Tour August 24<sup>th</sup>.


**Horticultural Inquiries:** No report.

**Twilight Garden Tour:** August 24<sup>th</sup> is the date for the TGT. Donna Amidon needs volunteers to be stationed at the MAPS, pinwheel, vegetable, sensory and childrens' gardens. Linda Anderson will man the horticultural inquiry table. Kevin indicated that Brian Smith from UW-RF is willing to share information on fruits and vegetables. Rue Genger, a potato specialist from the UW Horticulture Department, is willing to participate. A DNR Forestry speaker is being contacted. Donna passed around a sign-up sheet to cover other areas. Covid-19 Guidelines for UW-Madison, Division of Extension have changed and are much less stringent.

**Open MGV Discussion:** Instead of handouts at the TGT, it was suggested that a white board be set up near the registration table with helpful website links for those who want to do further research on their own.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Deb Studley  
Secretary