

**NORTH COUNTRY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 22, 2016**



The meeting was called to order by President, Russ Parker at 5:05 PM at the Spooner Ag. Research Station.

Those present included: Russ Parker, Carol Taylor, Nancy Reis, Sharon Tarras, Vicki Gee-Treft, Barb Boatman, Carolyn Marquardt, Roseann Meixelsperger, Pamela Davies, Terri Strand, Katie Childs, Sue Reinardy and Deb Studley. Roseann is a transfer from the Green County MG program and Pamela completed the training last year locally.

The secretary's report from the August 25, 2016, meeting was approved as written.

Barb Boatman reported the checking account balance of \$1,598.42.

There was no report from education/schools.

At the teaching and display garden, the Delize ever-bearing strawberries are still producing along with some vegetables, the perennials still look good and the annuals are about done for the season. No frost to date.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Two bids were secured for printing of the new NCMGV brochure. A motion was made by Pam Davies, seconded by Carol Taylor to order 1,000 copies through White Birch Printing in Spooner. The brochures will be available at the spring garden program in Hayward, at the Twilight Garden Tour and any event where we would have a table set up for public information.
- Sue Reinardy reported on the Upper Midwest Region MG Conference recently held in Wisconsin Dells. The event was lightly attended compared to other years. Sue chose to attend a tour of the Olbrich Botanical Gardens and picked up materials directed to children's garden events. She will be glad to share the information with others in planning a children's garden of our own.
- Sharon Tarras will complete a follow-up report to WIMGA for the \$400 grant we received for 2016 that was used for costs of the new pollinator plantings and signage.
- Sue Reinardy will submit a new grant request for 2017 for costs associated with establishing a children's garden.
- Eighteen people attended the last Meet Me In The Garden program on September 10<sup>th</sup>. Feedback was good. Sue would prefer offering three programs during the season in the future.
- Sue reported traffic on our website has been good with 69 visitors in one week. Many were looking at the handouts from the speaker symposium, and plant lists of the teaching and display garden.
- Julie Dawson from UW-Madison, Dept. of Horticulture will be meeting soon with local growers and a local chef to discuss the vegetable trials and taste-testing local produce to determine what impact variety and environment has on the flavor of food for the Seed to Kitchen Collaborative 2016.
- The necessary documentation was submitted to have our AAS gardens included in the design contest for 2016.
- Timesheets are due October 1<sup>st</sup>. Other requirements can be found online at <http://wimastergardener.org/toolbox> Click on the paperwork icon. Forms must be completed for a criminal background check and UWEX volunteer behavioral expectations. Check the September, 2016, Master Gardener Volunteer Vibe online for more ways to complete education hours.

## NEW BUSINESS:

- A slate of nominees for Vice-President and three Director positions were presented:
  - Vice-President: Donna Amidon
  - Directors: Carol Taylor, Tony Webber and Vicki Gee-Treft
- The slate of nominees was accepted by acclamation. The Vice-President will serve a one-year term then move to the President position. The Directors will serve two-year terms.
- The date of next year's Twilight Garden Tour has been set for Tuesday, August 22, 2017. Sue Reinardy suggested reserving the Ag. Station room now so we are sure it is available.
- Master Gardener Training for 2017 – Russ would like to see more conventional training starting in mid-January for 12 weeks with assistance from master gardener volunteers and training videos by Mike Maddox. Russ, Sue, Vicki, and Nancy will set up a committee to address the training. Various technology needs to be explored such as webinars, etc. for people to be remotely connected.
- A Board Meeting will be held to set goals for next year. Russ would like to move toward establishing education/youth gardens instead of being involved in the AAS design contest.
- The garden clean up date was set for October 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. The greenhouse, potato shed and tool shed also need organization and clean up. Bring your tools, wheel barrows, etc.
- 4" and gallon pots can be donated for plant sale use.
- Tile and vinyl plant signs no longer being using in the display garden may be donated to other volunteer garden operations or sold at the plant sale in the spring.
- The grape harvest and wine making will take place between September 28 – 30 at the garden and Ag. Station.
- The annual accomplishment report – Sue will be looking for stories and pictures of this year's events.
- Volunteers are still needed to answer horticulture inquiries at the Ag. Station. Contact Kevin if interested.
- It was decided to keep the paper member handbook for one more year which Sue will maintain.
- Vicki Gee-Treft suggested establishing a lending library for books/magazines for members to share.
- Next month's meeting will be a pot luck on October 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 4:00 PM. Russ requested that a list of ingredients be provided for the "dish to pass" to help those with food restrictions.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM followed by a pepper taste-testing.

Respectfully submitted,



Deb Studley, Secretary