

**NORTH COUNTRY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS
MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 23, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by President, Russ Parker at 5:20 p.m.

Those present included: Russ Parker, Deb Studley, Barb Boatman, Nancy Reis, Carol Taylor, Ed Jacobsen, Sharon Tarras, Donna Amidon, Kevin Schoessow, Terri Johnson and Hannah Meister.

Minutes of the May 26th meeting were approved as written.

Barb Boatman reported a checking account balance of \$3,933.40.

Committee Reports:

- Education & Schools: The school garden at Spooner Elementary is planted.
- Teaching & Display Garden:
 - The AAS gardens are planted.
 - Weeding, applying Preen and spraying for rabbits and deer needs to be done. Volunteers welcome.
 - Utilize the white board in the shed for listing chores that need completing.
 - Need to find a home for plants remaining in the greenhouse and shut it down.
 - The windmill is not pumping water to the tank so the 500 gallon tank on the gator has to be used for watering.
 - Discussed abandoning windmill and installing pump to the well.
 - The interns will plant a salsa planting in a raised bed of hot peppers, tomatoes, onions, cilantro & basil.
 - Empty spots in the high tunnel were planted with cucumbers.
- Twilight Garden Tour:
 - Scheduled for August 16th – possibility of having speakers make formal presentations at the Ag. Station then move to the garden to assist visitors with questions.
 - Need volunteers – contact Nancy Reis 715-635-3920.
 - Theme – Beneficial Pollinators
 - Possible speaker on non-culinary use of herbs – Lois Ristow from Chetek
 - No music this year.
 - Deb will contact Heather Holm about speaking on native pollinators.
 - Kevin will contact UW-Extension personnel for speaker availability.
- Old Business:
 - Washburn County Family Fest – about 150 dwarf tomato plants given away at the NCMGV booth
 - Meet Me in the Garden June 14th – highlighted native plants for birds, bees and butterflies
 - A draft of the new NCMGV brochure was reviewed with one suggestion for formatting change
 - The WIMGA conference early-bird deadline for registration is June 30th
 - Russ suggested providing laminated maps of the garden for visitors which can be returned to the mailbox.
 - Discussion of ending publication of garden books. Visitors can use maps with plants identified and do research on their own.
- New Business:
 - Sharon Tarras made a motion seconded by Nancy Reis to donate \$75 toward WIMGA conference expenses. Motion carried.
 - Meet Me in the Garden July 12th – Becoming a Natural Gardener. Sue Reinardy asked for volunteers to assist with presentation topics of phenology, beneficial pollinators and integrated pest management.
 - A local day care provider has requested assistance with offering information about plants to the children in her care. Nancy and Russ will contact her for further details.
 - Newsletter articles are due July 20th to Julie Hustvedt at mastergardenerivol@centurylink.net

- Educational & Volunteer Opportunities:
 - Meet Me in the Garden – July 12th @ 6 pm, September 10th @10 am
 - Hayward Garden Club to visit the display garden August 2nd @1:00 am
 - Twilight Garden Tour – August 16th 4:00 pm – twilight (possibility of speakers starting earlier)
 - Spooner Elementary Summer School Class touring display garden – June 30th from 8:00-9:00 am
 - Tour guides – Interns: Hannah Meister and Payton Ertl
 - Responding to Horticulture Inquiries – volunteers needed on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at the Ag. Station to assist with consumer inquiries.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm

The next meeting is July 28th @ 5:00 pm at the Ag. Station.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deb Studley".

Deb Studley
Secretary