



**NORTH COUNTRY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEERS
MEETING MINUTES
24 AUG 2017**

The meeting was called to order by President, Janet Mangold at 4:06 PM.

Those present included Deb Studley, Katie Childs, Nancy Reis, Russ Parker, Carol Taylor, Sheila Squires, Terri Johnson, Terrie Strand, Janet Mangold and Nikki Halverson.

Minutes of the July 27, 2017, meeting were approved as written.

The checking account balance is \$2556.60. The \$250 grant money was returned to WIMGA.

Old Business:

- a. Debrief of Twilight Garden Tour
 - Reviewed the evaluations – all complimentary comments
 - Keep inviting UW faculty
 - Ask Kevin about sending thank you to UW faculty
 - Email the evaluations to P. J. Liesch, Brian Hudelson and Brian Smith
 - Russ will talk to Lorraine about reimbursement costs for ink/toner
 - Decision to purchase \$100 VISA gift cards for three individuals who went above and beyond in helping with the TGT.
 - Cindy Lawson and Carla TePaske would like to add a flower arranging station to the garden tour next year.
 - Sheila suggested adding a station showing the stages of seed planting.
 - Russ suggested asking Boy/Girl Scouts or 4-H students to help with parking instead of having MGVS spending all their time on parking. Talk to leaders in the fall.
 - Russ suggested adding directional markings to the map and enlarging the print.
 - Need to ask Kevin about location of Twilight Garden Tour banner that was designed by Vicki Zalatoris in 2015 for use again in the future.
 - Improve traffic at the welcome table area. Direct people by signage and have two sign-in lines.
 - Need more welcome folders – estimated that over 300 attended this year – we only had 100 welcome folders. Additional agenda/maps were available.
 - A sub-committee of the TGT should address signage and get everything in place well before the tour.
 - Street signs (add more signs on Hwy 70)
 - Locate and use banner printed in 2015
 - Parking
 - Demonstration/display stations
 - Plant signage
 - order step stake holders well ahead of time - at least 200 small & 50 large from Parker Davis at www.parkerdavis.biz
 - include signs for all plants in MAPS garden, AAS gardens and vegetable/herbs
 - get list of all signage to Lorraine for printing in a timely manner
 - affix signage to stakes and get placed in garden well before the tour
 - Add speaker contact information to the agenda
 - Provide clipboard and paper for each speaker

New Business:

a. Russ reported that John Stensvold will donate all labor and materials for new garden benches and pergolas. Do we want backs on benches? Do we want a change in design for the pergolas? Nikki Halverson suggested asking him about making sign holders.

b. Slate of officers to be presented at September meeting:

President:	Donna Amidon
Vice-President:	Carol Taylor
Secretary:	
Treasurer:	Sheila Squires
Director:	Russ will fill Carol's remaining term until October, 2018.

Nominations will be taken from the floor at the September meeting. Also need to discuss the term expiration dates not all coming due at the same time. By-laws need updating.

c. September program event – no program is planned.

d. AAS contest deadline is September 15th. Terrie Strand will contact Sharon Tarras and work with Kevin on submission materials.

e. Time sheets due to Lorraine by September 15th.

f. Russ announced there will be a North Country School and Garden Workshop held this fall with involvement from Veronica Justen, UW-River Falls Assistant Professor of Crop Science, Kevin and Russ.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM.

After the meeting, Nikki Halverson set up a taste testing for tomatoes.

Respectfully submitted,



Deb Studley
Secretary