

**NORTH COUNTRY MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER  
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
28 Jan 2021**

The meeting was called to order by President Roseann Meixelsperger at 5:30 p.m. CST via Zoom.

Present on the video meeting were:

Donna Amidon	Roseann Meixelsperger
Linda Anderson	Sandy Niewinski
Jessie Crane	Sue Reinardy
Pam Davies	Kevin Schoessow
Jill Fries	Deb Studley
Vicki Gee-Treft	Lorraine Toman
Terri Johnson	Linda Zillmer
Janet Mangold	

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes of October 22, 2020 meeting were approved as written.

**Treasurer's report:** Balance \$1,488.64. We also have to send \$5.00 dues for each eligible member to WIMGA.

**All American Selection (AAS) Contest:** The theme is "Diversity in the Garden". We have to submit our intent to participate by April 1, 2021. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, it was decided not to participate in the contest for this year.

**Plant Sale:** Roseann reported that we will NOT be participating in a plant sale for 2021. UW-Madison, Division of Extension has prohibited all fund-raising activities for 2021 due to Covid-19 limitations and liabilities.

**Seed starting and greenhouse update:** Roseann will meet with the seed-starting committee in February to determine what display garden vegetable seeds will be started. The AAS flower seeds will be sent to Madison for planting. We supply local food shelves with harvested vegetables from the display and trial gardens. Roseann plans to plant a sensory and children's garden.

**NCMGV Handbook update:** Sue Reinardy plans to produce a slimmed-down version of the handbook in early March and mail out to eligible membership.

**Website, Blogs, Facebook update:** Anyone may submit a blog article to Sue Reinardy or information for a Facebook post to Lorraine. Development time can be counted for CE hours.

**Online Reporting System:** Sue Reinardy reminded everyone to get registered with WIMGA on the online reporting site located at <https://mastergardener.extension.wisc.edu/2021/01/12/enrollment-now-open-for-returning-volunteers>. Just hold down the CTRL key and left click with your mouse to bring the page up.

**By-Law Amendments and Legal Entity Status:** We have to align our By-Laws with the current WIMGA By-Laws and also complete the necessary forms and submit the proper fee to the State of Wisconsin to be considered a legal entity. Jessie Crane volunteered to assist Roseann with completing these requirements. Their updates will be brought back to a regular meeting for discussion and approval.

**Volunteer opportunities:** There are online opportunities through the Master Gardener Program, Division of Extension listed on their page under upcoming events. Some events are free, some have fees. <https://mastergardener.extension.wisc.edu/2021/01/12/enrollment-now-open-for-returning-volunteers>

**Horticultural Inquiries:** Linda Anderson reported on an inquiry about starting begonias from seed and if fertilizer should be applied at the time of planting. Linda and Kevin have also commented on the lack of a certified arborist in the area when many of the calls are regarding trees. Janet Mangold volunteered to take any tree-related calls to share her experience and education in that area.

**Letter from Bob Tomesh's Family:** Roseann received a letter from the family of Bob Tomesh, a retired UW-Madison horticulture professor who passed away in 2011 from cancer. NCMGV had sent a condolence card and \$100 check to the family. The card and check were recently discovered stuck to the side of the box containing other cards. Mrs. Tomesh returned the check with a letter of explanation. Roseann will acknowledge receipt of the letter.

The business portion of the meeting ended and Roseann welcomed Amy Freidig, WIMGA Outreach Specialist to give a presentation on developing and presenting programs with online technology.

- Topic development
- Use pictures, less words
- Move through slides at a steady pace
- Use images that are yours, you have permission to use (with credit) or from creative commons licensing
- Use polling or online discussion
- Introduce presenter by sharing why you care about the topic
- Know how to mute, chat, raise hand, record, share screen, load slides
- Share your screen
- Know how to load slides and advance them
- Have your notes accessible
- Use training videos
- Practice your presentation at least three times
- Use a co-pilot to deal with technical issues
- Wear a headset with the mouthpiece located by your chin
- Make sure your background is appropriate and "not messy"
- Position your camera so you are not back-lit and that the upper half of your body is visible
- Bandwidth issues may cause technical difficulties

The prevailing opinion is – THANK GOODNESS WE HAVE LORRAINE to help us with all these online presentation issues!

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m CST.

The next NCMGV meeting will be held February 25, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. CST on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,



Deb Studley  
Secretary