

**NORTH COUNTRY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION  
MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 28, 2016**

In attendance: Nancy Reis, Barb Boatman, Donna Amidon, Deb Studley, Terrie Strand, Russ Parker, Carol Taylor, Terri Johnson, Sue Reinardy, Vicki Gee-Treft and Kevin Schoessow.

From 4:00 – 4:45 PM, Sue Reinardy provided us with handouts and a power point program explaining how to give presentations to groups. The information was well received and very helpful.

At 5:00 PM the monthly meeting was called to order by President, Russ Parker.

Minutes of the March 24, 2016, meeting were approved as written.

Barb Boatman reported a checking account balance of \$2,198.07. She also reported that she will be changing our bank account from Bank of the West to the Shell Lake Bank.

**Committee Reports:**

Plant Sale

- Tomatoes were re-potted this week
- Peppers will be re-potted the first week of May
- Russ passed around a sign up sheet for watering
- Approx. 700 tomato and 300 pepper plants will be available for the sale
- The list of varieties offered will be posted to the website at <http://www.northcountrymgv.org>
- Deb will contact local newspapers to place an ad
- Kevin will submit PSA's (Public Service Announcements) to local newspapers
- Kevin will ask Lorraine to share the poster with the email list
- Perennials will be dug from the heeled in area east of the hoop house
- Kris Henning contributed more daylilies which need to be divided and potted
- Donna Amidon volunteered to take any perennials left over from the sale to the Forts Folle Avione for their Memorial weekend plant sale

Education and Schools

- Nancy Reis reported on the Mini-Master Gardener Short Course offered on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Bashaw Valley Greenhouse sponsored by NCMGV and Bashaw Valley.
- Book entitled *Roots, Shoots, Buckets and Boots* by Sharon Lovejoy was purchased by NCMGV and given to the participating families.
- Nancy will be working with the school garden in Spooner

Teaching and Display Garden

- The AAS seeds we received were sent to UW-Madison for planting.
- We pick up the plants when ready and Kevin will need help from others to pick up everything in one day.
- Carol Taylor made a motion, seconded by Terrie Strand, that we rent a trailer (if needed). Motion carried.
- Russ will contact Rob Bursick of Dragon Fly Gardens to reserve plants we need for the new pollinator section in the display garden.
- When a list of the AAS plants is available, Deb will make a chart to identify colors and sizes to assist the committee designing the AAS beds.
- Terrie Strand, Barb Boatman, Carol Taylor, Deb Studley volunteered to work on the AAS design committee.

Twilight Tour

- Nancy Reis and Barb Boatman will be co-chairs
- Kevin suggested having speakers give presentations in the station, then move to the garden for a walk about with speakers, food sampling, displays and music.
- Speakers to be invited are Erin Silva, UW-Madison, Brian Huddleson, UW-Extension and a speaker for pollinators.

#### Old Business:

- NCMGV website is up and running and maintained by Sue Reinardy. <http://www.northcountrymgv.org>
- Status of interns:
  - Hannah Meister will be working with Kevin and organic vegetable trials and will start May 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - Peyton Ertl will work with the MG's in the display garden
  - Our paid horticulture position was eliminated so the interns will attend Hort. Inquiry Training.
  - Kevin would like volunteers for horticulture assistant coverage. Monday AM at the station with other questions referred to a MG at home via phone or email.
- Newsletter articles due today.
- Barron County MG Spring Expo on April 2<sup>nd</sup> attendance about 200.
- April pruning workshops facilitated by Kevin were well attended.

#### New Business:

- Requests coming in to the Ag. Station from homeowners requesting help in their gardens – recommend that they place a help-wanted ad in the paper.
- Sue Reinardy has designed a new promotion card to publicize the Spooner Agricultural Research Station which would be used in display racks at various locations.
- Sue also passed around a draft of a new NCMGV brochure which would explain what MGV's do and how to become one.
- Motion made by Barb Boatman and seconded by Terrie Strand to have 500 promotion cards printed at White Birch Printing and limit the cost to \$175.00. Motion carried.
- Sue reported on the spring WIMGA meeting. Combined midwest and state MG conference will be held in Wisconsin Dells September 14-17.

#### Educational Opportunities:

- Responding to Horticulture Inquiries Training, June 2, Barron County Museum near Cameron. Registration deadline May 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Meet Me In The Garden Series: June 14 @ 6PM, July 12 @ 6PM and September 10 @10 AM
- Hayward Garden Club will visit the display garden on August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 PM
- Twilight Garden Tour: August 16<sup>th</sup> – 4:00 PM to twilight

#### Volunteer Opportunities:

- Request from Beautiful Savior Church to give a garden presentation in May.
- Grantsburg School Garden Volunteer Opportunity.
- Request for a presentation on composting and vermicomposting from the Spooner Garden Club sometime in early 2017.
- Dig, divide and pot perennials for the plant sale.
- Service Learning Day (Middle School) – Friday May 13<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of May 20<sup>th</sup>. Contact Russ.
- Hayward School Garden is looking for volunteers.
- May 14<sup>th</sup> – Prairie Fling at Hunt Hill Audubon Camp in Sarona. Vickie Gee-Treft and others.
- Ruby's Pantry Garden, Siren – Volunteers needed for community garden. Contact Patti Hurd at [pattih2@aol.com](mailto:pattih2@aol.com)
- Plant sale meeting, Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM at the Ag. Station to address details for sale.
- Plant sale set up, Friday, May 20 to set up tables, trucks/trailers to move plants from greenhouse to station, staking, signage, etc.
- Plant sale, Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> 7:00 AM.
- June 4<sup>th</sup> – Washburn County Family Fest – Russ will start Tiny Tim tomatoes to give out.

Meeting adjourned about 7:00 PM

*Deborah M. Studley*

Next meeting May 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Studley  
Secretary