

Location: Jefferson County UW Extension

1. Call to order at 6:52.

2. Presentation by Mark Dwyer of Rotary Gardens in Janesville, on ornamental edibles. Mark's daily diary is at: [Rotarygardens.blogspot.com](http://Rotarygardens.blogspot.com). Search for books on edible plants by author Rosalind Creasy

3. Treasurer's report -. Includes deposited money to be paid out for trip, clothing, tomato cages, also contains recent deposit from 2011 plant sale (amount unknown at meeting).

4. Approval of April's minutes as read via e-mail or provided copies. Move to approve Dennis B, second Diane K. Passed.

#### 5. Old business

A. New clothing order – Audray brought in the latest order and distributed items.

B. Note that extra 'MG At Work' signs are available for ongoing outdoor projects. Call Margaret A or Mary T

C. Signup/pay for bus trip to Cantigny Gardens July 30 – attendee list started. **Notify Ron L2316 or Judy F if you want to go, send Payment to Mary T.** 10 people from group have paid. Seats will be open to public after today.

D. Plant sale report – Margaret A not present, but proceeds have been deposited. Leftover plants will go to Jefferson Cab ride for elderly at **Dairy Breakfast** this coming weekend. Will pass any leftovers on to Hoard Museum plant sale on 5/28.

E. Update on Jefferson Rock River Community Gardens -

12 plots have been marked off, 7 are taken, 3 for organic gardening. Water is connected, mulch was dropped off. There will be a meeting Monday with those who signed up and Master Gardeners, gardeners will be given keys for water supply (to be returned at end of season). Small gardening info session was held by Donna & Mike H.

F. Other old business –

- Maggie S expressed thanks for plant donations and seeds to Fort police station
- PHA newspaper column in Jefferson County Daily Union – Notice was placed asking for questions, missed being put in last week, was in today. We are writing articles during plant adviser time at Ext office.
- Sharon S noted that Invasive Species photo id cards are available. See [www.dnr.wi.gov/invasives/classification](http://www.dnr.wi.gov/invasives/classification), which also has information about NR 40 (WI's Invasive Species Rule), as mentioned in a recent MG newsletter. To report prohibited species send email to [InvasiveSpecies@wi.gov](mailto:InvasiveSpecies@wi.gov) or call 1-608-267-5066.

#### 6. New Business

A. Grants for projects (Bev) –

Reviewed Board discussion – As a non-profit with tax-exempt status, we are expected to disburse extra funds in fulfillment of our organization mission. FYI, that is:

1. To promote the UW-Extension Master Gardening Volunteer mission through education and service to the community.
2. To serve the needs of all gardeners in Jefferson County and the surrounding area.
3. To promote the continuing education of members through horticultural education, programs, tours, etc.
4. To promote community service through volunteer activities.
5. To recognize members who meet and maintain certification.

6. To provide for the exchange of ideas and to provide opportunities to promote the understanding of responsible gardening practices.

7. To provide a link between the community and the Jefferson County UW Extension.

- There was discussion of what a reasonable reserve fund would be – \$0 (noted that that is how the Optimist's Club operates), \$500, \$1000, one year's budget (approximately \$2000). No decision on this – **further discussion required.**
- There was a suggestion that we maintain a list of suggestions, requests, grants, documentation of grants, reasons for awards, amounts given. This history will be considered in future decision-making, as extra funds are identified.
- Noted that any items procured with our grants be professional looking, to act as a good representative of our organization.
- Noted that our income and budget and thus surplus funds varies from year to year, so committing to a fixed award such as a scholarship each year may not be feasible.

Grant approved for \$200 to UW Extension - we had this earmarked in this year's budget for local scholarship – Motion from Mary T that we use this money to donate to UW Extension to support local summer horticulture intern. **Motion approved.**

B. Hoard Museum Rain Garden educational sign – request for \$350 to install a sign at the new Rain Garden, which is a project being created by volunteers. Audray made a motion to donate \$350 for Hoard Rain Garden project, Judy seconded. **Motion approved.**

C. Other new business –

Rose Lake organization – Sharon S – MGs provide effort for plants and soils – would suggest educational ID book for an award for arrangements or similar effort.

#### 7. Show, Tell, or Ask

County Fair - 15<sup>th</sup> of June is Fair entry date. Sat July 2 judging

State Fair – 14<sup>th</sup> of June entry date deadline. Wistatefair.com to enter and get more information. Only need an estimate of what plants you think you will bring – fee is \$20-25??

There is a shortage of horticulture judges. Note that workshops are needed to train judges.

Diane K – Opportunity for 1 hour session with kids grade 2-5 planting flowerbed - Tuesday at 4:30.

Written reports needed for state reporting on how we spent grants for signage and compost training.

**Compost committee will write theirs**, have spent \$22.35 for compost display sign. **Sign committee (Mary T) will write theirs**, with photos from different places. Note local business was used.

Notes from state MG Association meeting:

Send events to Susan Mahr for monthly activity

2012 conference will be in Ashland, in Sept, with Lake Superior cruise.

June tour at Sue Z's.

Publicity committee – need blurb for paper about bus trip. – **Ron L will write.**

8. Motion to adjourn at 9:10

**Education – 1.5 hours, Support - .5 hours**