

SEWMG Business Meeting Minutes

Date January 8, 2014

**Members Present: 35**

**Meeting was called to order** by President, Diane Thieme at 9:30am.

**Introduction of 2014 Officers** by President, Diane Thieme

2014 officers include:

Diane Thieme, President  
Pat Adrian, President Elect  
Lindy Pawlak, Treasurer  
Linda Ziebell, Secretary

2014 board members include:

Kathie Foti, chairman  
Joy Towell, second-year board member  
Jeff Trader, first-year board member  
Betty Polcyn and Carla Magnus, members-at-large

**Prior Meeting Minutes** for October 10, 2013 was presented by Secretary, Linda Ziebell with approval after changes in the following: Diane Thieme reported that Sharon and Ann will allow class visits so that the President, Secretary and Garden Support representative can present committees and activities to trainees.

**Treasurer's Report** for December 2013 was given by Lindy Pawlak and approved with modification to the year of the report.

**Old Business**

Committees

- Plant Sale – Ed Kraus and Patty Witt reported:
  - The Plant Sale Introductory Meeting that will be at Boerner at 6:30 will be rescheduled from 1/7 to 1/9 due to weather.
  - Patty has the completed display board for the Volunteer Opportunity Fair.
  - Eble is filed with plants that will be transplanted at Sat Eble pot-a-thons.
  
- Garden Support – Ken Loeffel reported:
  - Next meeting is 1/8 after the business meeting at Boerner.
  - Volunteer Opportunity Fair on 1/18 at Boerner which will be discussed at today's meeting.
  - Garden Chair Forum is scheduled for Thursday evening, 3/20.
  
- In-House Education - Judy Williamson reported for Rita Piper:
  - Program Schedule
    - Jan 18, 11:00-12pm, at Boerner, Landscape Design Insights, 180 attendees, 20 on waiting list.
    - Feb 15, 9:30-11am, at New Berlin Library, Vertical Gardening, 180 available, registration mail was sent.
    - April 26, 9:30-11am, Franklin, Milwaukee Greenhouses and Nursery, 30 attendees.
    - September date TBD, Roof Top Basics, future registration.
    - October date TBD, Slow Food Movement, future registration.
    - November date and topic TBD.
  - Program Info
    - No programs scheduled in March due to Level II training and May-August due to organization and garden activities.
    - Electronic registration implemented for January, with some issues with the newsletter, confirmation emails, incorrect emails and registering non-SEWMG's.
    - Due to speaker availability most are scheduled for Sat am. Hope to schedule at least one fall evening session.
    - Attendees will receive a post program survey for recommended feedback and future topics.
  
- Trips and Tours – Doris Fons reported:
  - Chicago Flower Show, Friday March 21, 2014, tickets being purchased by committee, there will be 1 bus. Registration begins 2/3. Registration notice to be sent 1/29.
  - Jerry Nelson tour Wed, 5/28, topic is grape growing.
  - July bus trip to Green Bay Botanical and possibly Brian Gore's, Friday, July 18.

- Life Long Gardening – Kay Costello reported:
  - Has 4 programs scheduled so far.
  - Will be at the Volunteer Opportunity Fair.
  - Liaison with Plant Sale Committee to assist customers in shopping for easy care plants to maximize success in the garden. This would be for gardeners with physical challenges, new gardeners, and gardeners with time constraints.
  
- Home Show - Faouzi Kablaoui reported:
  - The Realtors' Home & Garden Show will be March 21 to March 30, 2014. Closed on Monday and Tuesday, the 24th & 25th.
  - Will be sending registration request email by next week. MG topic is backyard fruits.
  - If you are planning on going to the Chicago Flower Show or the WIMGA Conference please avoid these dates when signing up.
  
- Clothing – Peg Schellin reported:
  - Clothing order has been sent to embroiderer for 56 sweatshirts. Had sample shirt at the business meeting.
  - Orders will be available for pickup at the Volunteer Opportunity Fair 1/18 and then Milwaukee and Waukesha Extension offices.
  - Will have a survey form for member's contribution.
  - Group discussed the possibility of having logo aprons available for Art in Bloom and Plant Sale. Peg is getting prices and considering adding item to logo wear list.
  
- Sunshine - Judy Savage reported:
  - Has not sent any cards recently but request folks to let her know of a situation even if you don't want global distribution. She would like to send a card from the organization.
  
- Audit – Pat Adrian reported:
  - She will be starting her process in January.
  - Board members will be needed.
  - Actual audit will be done after taxes are done.
  
- WIMGA update - John Hahn reported:
  - Annual WIGMA Conference 3/28-29, 2014 in Appleton, Wi  
Garden Expectation State Conference  
Radisson Paper Valley Hotel - conference pricing for hotel rooms  
[Click to Register for Conference](#)  
Print application and mail it in, \$65 before 2/1; \$75 after 2/28
  - Midwest Regional Conference 6/25-28, 2014 Davenport, Iowa. They are looking for a site for their 2016 conference.
  - Doctor Mahr has a Costa Rica blog as she travels. Follow along at:  
<http://fyi.uwex.edu/wimastergardener/category/travel/>
  
- Other:
  - Finance Committee
    - Fred Redlinger reported that the 2014 budget was approved and chairs were notified if the dollars requested were different than approved. Others were approved as requested.
    - Diane presented revised reimbursement/budget deadline policies which were discussed by group. Policy will be presented at Garden Chair Forum in March.

### **New Business**

- Sharon Morrisey, Horticulture Agent/Educator, reported:
  - Discussed possible locations for MG meetings and events. Milw Extension office is available for small meetings that are day or evening. The parking lot can handle smaller meetings.
    - Routes to the office should be stable now that frontage and back roads are done.
    - Waukesha County Admin center has meeting rooms available 2 nights a week. Contact Ann Wied if interested.

- Other sites discussed, Judy Williamson will share sites collected for education to Sharon and check on 2 new locations.
- Sharon will send an email with available sites.
- Time Sheets
  - Revised time sheet has been created.
  - An intro and demo will be presented at the Volunteer Opportunity Fair and announced in next newsletter.
- Ann Wied, Horticulture Agent/Educator, reported:
  - Thanks for the cards while she recuperated. She is good as new now!
  - Pruning workshop will be in Milwaukee and Waukesha county locations. It will be announced in next newsletter and open to the public.
- Diane Thieme discussed a technology/social media committee. Ben Rucka volunteered to be the chair and will need committee members. Committee to check out email issues, credit cards at the plant sale, social media option. Diane will send out email requesting volunteers.
- Diane Thieme discussed an Outreach Committee to promote organization and program diversity in communities. Committee to generate ideas and create a plan. Diane will send out an email.

**Announcement & Reminders:**

- Next Meeting 2/12/14, 9:30 at Boerner. Some future meetings may be in the evening.
- Newsletter deadline is 2/1.
- Sharon will send out email with a change of date for the 2/15 Speakers Workshop to 2/22.
- Sharon will be changing the Level 2 Training on 4/3 in Waukesha to possibly Tues.

**Adjourned** at 11:09am

Respectfully submitted, Linda Ziebell, SEWMG secretary