

SEWMG Business Meeting Minutes

Date July 8, 2015

Members Present: 25

Meeting was called to order by President, Pat Adrian at 9:40 am.

Prior Meeting Minutes for May 20, 2015 were accepted as posted on the web site and June 10, 2015 were accepted as posted on the web site with three modifications.

Treasurer's Report for June, 2015 was submitted by Lindy Pawlak and approved.

Old Business

Committees

- Plant Sale – Bill Shaffer, Diane Thieme, Sue Ratkowski, Patty Witt, Pat Adrian, and Bonnie Papham
 - The Plant Sale committee met on June 25, 2015 to discuss the sale and the email feedback that Ed Kraus received from 14 Master Gardeners. The committee provided the following feedback from the meeting along with some discussion at the business meeting:
 - Looking at the use of smaller boxes or bags for small orders
 - Parking on Plant Sale Day will not change. In order to get free parking, you must arrive at State Fair Park before 6:15 A.M. We will resolve the problem of handicap parking for SEWMG members.
 - There will be a new committee for making pictures and signs. We would like to have a picture for every plant. Some of the old signs and pictures need to be replaced. Several members have expressed interest at being on the committee.
 - Bonnie has made a common name/botanical name conversion sheet for the perennials that are in the sale only. The list is shorter than the current list and will be easier to read.
 - We may put all handouts in a bag and give them to customer at the end of the checkout process.
 - We need to select/assign people to work in all areas of the sale prior to Plant Sale Day.
 - Change the location of the Silent Auction to make it more visible to buyers at Friday's Pre-sale. We need more volunteers to work Friday at the Pre-sale.
 - The Leopold Center has been torn down. We need to look at the area to see if there is usable space for plant sale.
 - Try to move plants on one side in narrow areas.
 - We cannot add more sleds because of the congestion.
 - We need a better communication system between committee members during the sale. Bill will talk to State Fair Park officials about the system that they use.
 - Set up a table with plants near the checkout area for impulse buys.
 - Put up thank you signs for Milorganite and Klehm Song Sparrow
- Garden Support – Ken Loeffel reported:
 - The new mission statement will be published in the next newsletter.
 - The committee is working on the process for deciding how an approved garden can continue to be an approved garden.
 - The next meeting is September 9, 2015 following the September business meeting.
 - Sue Ratkowski reported that she has contacted the garden chairpersons for the August 8 Garden Tour.
 - Sue and Liz Burke will visit each garden at the end of July to see if the gardens are ready.
- In-House Education – nothing

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- Trips and Tours – Doris Fons reported:
 - Pat Adrian will put an article in a future newsletter about the process for setting up and signing up for trips.
 - Doris reported that the people that take the trip pay for all of the costs of the trip. SEWMG does not provide any funding. If a second bus is not filled, the people taking the trip would have to pay more.
- Life Long Gardening – Kay Costello reported:
 - The committee has 3 displays scheduled including State Fair.
 - Each meeting has an education segment for committee members teaching them how to use the tools.
- Special Events – nothing
- Clothing – nothing
- Sunshine – Judy savage reported:
 - Barb Kiernan passed away. A memorial was sent to the Wisconsin State Master Gardeners in her name.
- Membership – Patty Witt reported:
 - The 2016 Annual Dues Application is in the July/August newsletter. Send the completed form and your check (made out to SEWMG) directly to Patty Witt. Patty will send out an email on August 1, 2015 to all members.
 - The number of SEWMG members is 675 which includes the 2015 class.
- Project Outreach – nothing
- WIMGA – nothing

New Business

- Ann Wied - nothing
- Sharon Morrisey - nothing

Correspondence

- A donation was received from Neal and Carol Meitler
- A thank you note and graduation announcement was received Andrea Schneider. She received a scholarship from SEWMG.

Announcements

- The MGV Annual Picnic is Thursday, August 20, 2015 at Mitchell Park Pavilion, 19900 River Road, Brookfield, WI. There will be a plant exchange.

Reminders:

- **Next Meeting is 8/12/15, 9:30 AM at BOERNER BOTANICAL GARDEN.**

Adjourned at 10:59 am

- Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Papham, SEWMG secretary