

SEWMG Monthly Meeting Minutes

January 10, 2018

Members Present-34

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 by President, Roger Kocher.

Prior Meeting Minutes

The minutes from October 2017 and December 2017 were approved.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurers report for 2017 was presented by Pat Conole and approved.

UW Extension Report

Sharon Morrissey reported:

- Her last day is January 31.
- Her position will probably not be filled until June or July. Ann Wied will be the point person for the next few months. Sharon will have an auto reply to her email that directs people to others who can assist.
- The Home Show Committee has a new scheduler, Connie Tjarksen, although Faouzi is still involved. The Home Show is still in March.
- There will be a Speakers Workshop this year. Presentations will be updated and put into binders by volunteers.
- The Zoo garden is getting all new signage.
- Volunteers will take on scheduling Walnut Way lead remediation project and Children's Workshops.
- Susan Taylor will take on Plant Health advisors. Plant Health updates will be taken on by master gardeners. There is a Group for youth gardening activities.
- There is a new laptop that can be used for presentations and also a new video camera. Sharon will order a new projector before she leaves.
- The contract for the new Milwaukee County office has not been signed as of yet. The location being considered has two conference rooms available with a 30-35 person capacity in one room and another smaller room. A conference room on the main level (available to all tenants) holds 275 people. This room has a projector in the ceiling, nice lighting, a coat rack and counters in an alcove in the back.
- Pat Conole asked who will do the sign-off on youth gardening programs when Sharon Leaves. This person has not been named yet. When named this person should have budget responsibility

Ann Wied reported:

- The reorganization of UW extension is still ongoing.
- Ann has 20 hours a week to do Master Gardener work for both counties. She will do room reservations at Boerner.
- Ann will probably still do a pruning workshop this spring – not sure yet.
- Betsy Vokac might take on some new responsibilities. She will be the contact for the Milwaukee County move.

Nancy Lehrer reported:

- She is retiring the end of March.
- The Volunteer Directory will be available on the website by the end of January.
- The Committee Directory is almost finished. The contact for this is Betsy Vokac.
- Help will be needed with packing when the Milwaukee office moves.
- Art in Bloom will be April 12-14.

Old Business

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Committees

Plant Sale – Diane Thieme reported:

- The plant sale committee met in December.
- The committee will have a table at the Volunteer Opportunity Fair.
- A date has not been chosen yet for Plant Sale Training. The committee is looking for a suitable site and are tentatively looking at either March 22nd or 29th. Watch for email announcements.
- 12 pot-a-thons are planned for the spring. 26 digs are also planned.
- The Committee will order sandwich sign boards for the front gate at the sale.
- Volunteers will continue to be asked to sign up in advance indicating where they want to work.
- Diane said they have picked the t-shirt color.
- The grounds layout at State Fair will be changed due to jumping worms, with some of the sale plants moved to the parking lot. All plants will be on surfaced areas where there is no grass or soil.
- Cashiering volunteers will not hand out literature this year. Exit people (Fred Redlinger's group) will hand out literature when the receipt is reviewed.
- We have found a new insurance agency – Inland Marine – to handle our additional insurance needs. All inventoried property will be covered by insurance no matter where it is stored. A liability and driver coverage policy has been added for the plant sale needs, as well as a directors and officers policy to protect our officers and board from liability.
- The donated plants list for 2017 is on SEWMG web site.

Garden Support

- Jennifer Lazewski reported that the Volunteer Opportunity Fair is January 20 at Boerner.
- The Garden Chair Forum is March 21 from 6:30-8:00.

In House Education

Education programs include:

February 24 – Planting From Seeds

March 20 – Lifelong Gardening

April 16 – Jumping Worms

More information is on the SEWMG website.

Trips and Tours

There is an upcoming trip to Garfield Park Conservatory and the Chicago Botanic Orchid Show on March 2nd.

Lifelong Gardening

Mary Redlinger announced there will be a train the trainer session for MGV organizations around the state. They are still in the process of checking out a location at Havenswood and possibly working with some Eagle Scouts.

Special Events-nothing to report

Clothing

Peg Schellin reported that volunteers will be able to order online beginning February 8 until February 19. Pick up will be available at level 2 classes or at offices. The Volunteer Opportunity Fair will have samples in all sizes – 19 different items – with a sheet that can be used for online ordering.

Sunshine – Nothing to report

Membership

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To date, 564 members have paid their dues. This does not include any of the 2017 trainees. Also, 48 people have left us either due to moving, death or noncompliance with the CBC.

Projects-nothing to report

WIMGA – nothing to report

Announcements

- Mary Hughes showed a calendar that California master gardeners sell as a fundraiser.
- Pat Conole reported on the collection to buy Sharon Morrisey a tree at Boerner – there have been 76 donors and a significant amount of money has been raised. A group will get together with Sharon and see what she would like.
- Committee Chairs need to get the committee chair job description questionnaire for the policy and procedures handbook back to Diane Thieme.
- The deadline for the newsletter is February 1.

Reminders

Next 2 meetings:

February 14 – Boerner Botanical Gardens

March 14 – Waukesha Courthouse

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42.