

SEWMG Monthly Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2018

Members Present-24

The meeting was called to order at 9:37 by President, Roger Kocher.

Prior Meeting Minutes

The minutes from January 2018 were not approved as there was no quorum. There were no corrections.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurers report for January 2018 was presented by Pat Conole.

Mark Pawlak reported that a brick has been ordered for Sharon Morrissey for the pathway at Boerner. The tree for Sharon has also been chosen. April 27 will be Sharon's and Nancy's (Lehrer) retirement party at Boerner.

UW Extension Report

Ann Wied reported:

- There will be some changes to programs as the nEXT Generation project moves along.
- If you have not completed your criminal background check (CBC), you will need to check your email every 2 days as the link expires after 3 days. If you are not a computer person you will need to get a paper copy.
- You need to complete the CBC in order to stay in the Master Gardener program.
- If you are not planning to complete the CBC, you need to let Ann know.
- If a Garden Chair wants to know if their garden volunteers have completed the CBC, contact Betsy Vokac and she will check for you.
- Two Pruning workshops are scheduled. Both classes are half full.

Nancy Lehrer reported:

- Nothing has been signed yet for the new Milwaukee office space. They are being told they are definitely moving so they are continuing to pack.
- If handouts are needed for March or April let Nancy know now as she does not know when they are moving and how she will be able to make copies during the move.
- No complete list is available of brochures. Nancy will put together a complete list of MGV and/or extension brochures after she retires in March.
- 3 people are being interviewed for Nancy's job next week.

Old Business

Committees

Plant Sale – Diane Thieme reported:

- The informational meeting for the plant sale will be March 22. Location is still pending based on move to new offices.
- The Song Sparrow order for the plant sale was placed – 300 plants were ordered including trees, shrubs and perennials.
- They received the 2 new sandwich sign boards that were ordered.
- No plants will be placed on grassy areas at the Plant Sale. Neither volunteers nor customers will be allowed on grassy areas. This is due to jumping worms.
- April 2 is trailer day. April 9 is Carlin Day – this is where they pick up and deliver the supplies for the pot a thons. Trailers and SUVs are needed that day for deliveries.

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Garden Support

- Jennifer Lazewski reported that the Garden Support Committee is meeting after this meeting.
- The Volunteer Opportunity Fair had 144 attendees split between MGVs and trainees.
- The Garden Chair Forum is Wednesday March 21 – 6:30-8:00. It will have breakout sessions.
- Jennifer needs any revisions to handbook or changes to forms by the end of February.

In House Education

Nothing to report

Trips and Tours

The upcoming trip to Garfield Park Conservatory and the Chicago Botanic Orchid Show is March 2nd. The trip is full with a waiting list.

Lifelong Gardening

Nothing to report

Special Events

- Ann Wied reported that the Tomato display will be used for the Home Show. The handout has been translated into Spanish.
- Set up for the Home Show is March 21. Training is Thursday March 22 at 1:00.
- Ann Wied is doing presentations at the Home Show.

Clothing

Janet Winterberger reported for Peg Schellin that the deadline for ordering is Monday February 19th at 11:59PM.

Sunshine –Judy Savage reported that Judy McNamara died. A donation to the State Master Gardener program has been made in her name.

Membership – nothing to report

Projects

- Jennifer Lazewski reported that Educational Signs is a new group looking at signage for education in gardens. They are working on 5-6 ideas. A first draft is expected by March 10. Some may be ready for the Garden Chair forum. Examples include: What is a pollinator garden? What is a native plants garden? Garden Chairs will be able to choose what they want for their gardens.
- Jennifer reported that the Pollinator Group met January 21. They will meet again on February 21. They discussed winter sowing and the effect of climate change on pollinators as well as native plant seeds. There will be a review of types of pollinators in February. Backyard habitat landscaping will be a topic in Spring.
- Ann said MGVs should NOT be using power tools like chain saws in gardens. Diane Thieme will check with insurance on using chain saws and other motorized equipment.

WIMGA –

Roger reported on behalf of John Hahn – SEWMG rep to WIMGA and WIMGA director:

2018 MG conference

- Will be in Eau Claire on September 21 and 22.
- Mike Maddox will be there.
- **Mark Dwyer** -Director Horticulture Rotary Botanical Gardens (Friday Night)

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- **Ben Futa** - Director Allen Centennial Gardens (Saturday)
- Plenty of information on **Facebook** at -
Wisconsin master gardener conference 2018 - Eau Claire
and online at
<https://wimgaconferences.com>

Reorganization

Mike Maddox talked about more finalization of changes to be made as a result of UW-Ext coming under the administration of UW Madison. This means that all the volunteer programs of Ext. like 4H, Master gardeners, etc. will have to have common policies that the UW will define in a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) that is under development. Currently, 4H is the largest group and Master Gardeners are #2. This will obviously cause changes to be made to provide uniformity for all groups, in order to comply with the as yet to be finalized MOU.

Announcements

- The annual Spring Symposium presented by the Herb Society of America Wisconsin unit will be held at the Woman's Club of Wisconsin on March 3. The speaker will be Carrie Hennessey and she will speak about growing, preserving, harvesting and cooking with Mediterranean Herbs. Ann Wied commented that if the program is more focused on cooking than growing that MGVs should use their best judgment to determine if the entire time should be counted toward MGV education hours. For more information go to www.boernerbotanicalgardens.org and click on Herb Society Symposium.
- Let Diane Thieme or Mary Redlinger know about silent auction items for the Plant Sale

Reminders

Next 3 meetings:

March 14 – Waukesha Courthouse 9:30AM

April 11 – Location to be announced

May 9 – Location to be announced

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42.

Respectfully submitted, Bernita Hile, secretary