

SEWMG Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2019

Members Present-33

The meeting was called to order at 7:28 by president, Jennifer Lazewski.

The SEWMG officers and the Board of Directors were introduced.

Prior Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the October and December 2018 meetings were approved with one correction to the October minutes.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurers report for January 2018 was presented by Larry Paplham. Larry created a new report showing trends in expense and income over the last several years.

Board of Directors Report

- Janet Wintersberger stated that the board will meet quarterly.
- The board will be looking for new fund raising opportunities.
- Jennifer stated that Finance Committee will meet in September/October.

Committees and Project Reports

Garden Support- Jennifer Lazewski reported that the Volunteer Opportunity Fair took place on Feb 2. About 100 MGVs attended and met with about 100 representatives of gardens, committees and projects. The Garden Support committee will meet on March 9 and the Garden Chair Forum will take place on March 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Good Earth Newsletter – Sandy Manning reported that the Newsletter has gone out. The deadline for articles is the first day of even months.

*Home Show/Special Events-*Valorie Sangsland reported that Home Show is fully scheduled with 69 volunteers. Displays are being updated to be more professional. Dates are March 22-24 and 27-31.

*Hospitality-*Mary Redlinger reported on the function of the Hospitality committee. They currently have 5 people on the committee and could use a few more people.

*In House Education-*nothing to report

*Lifelong Gardening-*Ann Loper reported that there have been 2 presentations recently. The Train the trainer program is still in process and will be presented this fall.

Clothing- Peg Schellin reported that they are waiting for the new logo before ordering.

Membership – 673 members including level 1 master gardeners. 64 members have not paid their dues yet.

Plant Sale – Bonnie Paplham reported that the plant sale committee has met. March 28 is the plant sale orientation and informational meeting. It is at 6:30 and will be at the New Berlin Public Library. She stated they will be holding fewer potathons this year.

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Pollinator Group-Jennifer Lazewski reported that the Pollinator Group will be meeting on March 9 to discuss natural communities and a few types of pollinators. There will also be meetings in April (date and time TBD) and May 11 to discuss native plant communities and other issues of concern regarding pollinators.

State Fair – Dave Heeren reported that they want to upgrade the garden at State Fair to include pruning and garden signage. It needs a new fresh look. They are looking for leaders to help with different sections of the garden.

Sunshine –nothing to report. Emails go out regarding members with illnesses etc.

Trips and Tours- nothing to report. Emails go out and there is an article in the newsletter.

Youth Outreach (formerly young gardeners) – The mission of this group is: (1) to connect youth with engaging and meaningful gardening projects; and, (2) to connect MGVs with quality resources when preparing to work with youth. Work includes school high interest days, farmers markets, information booths at events, and other youth activities. Future plans include organizing and posting curriculum on the SEWMG website as well as new activities. Contact Karla Geiger if interested in working on this committee.

UWEX Horticulture Educator Report

Ann Wied reported :

- There have been positive comments about MGV graduation – it was fun and fast.
- They are still working on the new logo and what the changes will be.
- Betsy Vokac is retired but will still be an MGV.
- Jenny Abel has taken Eloise's job as Milwaukee County Extension Director.
- The new Milwaukee County Horticulture program coordinator almost ready to be hired.
- No Level II training planned. It is possible they will still have it.

New Business

Project and Committee Day - Jennifer reported that 70 or 80 people attended the Project and Committee Day on January 12. Next events will be on March 9 and May 11 – maybe outside activity too. We want to offer more MGV service hours in the winter.

Picnic – Jennifer asked for discussion as to whether we should still have the picnic at Mitchell Park. Several people mentioned that the facilities at Mitchell Park are great with a covered space, kitchen and plenty of parking. It was decided that we would still have the picnic at Mitchell Park – more details to follow with a date in August. Jennifer also stated that she would like to create a Social Committee for smaller events.

Jennifer stated that she is also looking at creating a Fund Raising Committee and a Retention committee.

Reminders

Next meeting in April – date to be announced.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34.

Respectfully submitted, Bernita Hile, secretary