

SEWMG Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2019

Members Present-72

The meeting was called to order at 7:29 by president, Jennifer Lazewski.

Prior Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the April 2019 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's reports for April and May 2019 were presented by Lars Paplham.

Board of Directors Report – Janet Wintersberger

The Board has been meeting quarterly. Following is a recap of the April meeting:

- The Plant Sale Committee requested an additional \$1,000 to buy Song Sparrow plants. The Board approved the request.
- Dave Heeren is serving as the liaison for the State Fair. Plants have been removed from the center garden, and soil will be delivered. Work will then begin on creating a garden that can tolerate shady conditions.
- The Audit Process will begin soon.
- A social/welcoming committee is planning informal meetings for MGVs to meet others.
- The Picnic committee will be chaired by Bernita Hile.
- The Board is evaluating SEWMG's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats .
- Ann Wied will talk with Vijai Pandian about his experience with MGV retention when he was in Brown County.
- A committee is being formed to review our website.

WIMGA Report-John Hahn

John provided some background information on WIMGA.

- Its' purpose is to coordinate MGVs across the state. It was started in 1991. They are currently working with the University to develop an MOU to standardize by-laws and make things more uniform, etc. relating to training and talking to the public. This is due to liability issues. All areas of the State will have to have the same by-laws. This is not the case today.
- WIMGA meets 4 times a year.
- They will have a one day session on October 26 in Stevens Point instead of the annual conference.
- There will be Leadership conferences scheduled around the state.

UWEX Horticulture Educator Report – Ann Wied

- We will become part of UW-Madison officially on July 1.
- Level 1 training is being planned in Milwaukee and Waukesha counties – afternoon and evening sessions. An email will go out in July.

Committee Reports

Committee Reports were provided in a handout at the meeting.

New Business

- Plant Sale Committee Report-Diane Thieme
 - Profits up significantly from what was anticipated.
 - Firefly Garden needs a work team. Diane will be sending out an email.
 - The Plant Sale made \$53,700 gross. 14,033 plants sold. Net of \$36,000 against budget of \$25,000.
- SEWMG Budget and Spending – Jennifer Lazewski

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- Jennifer explained that SEWMG is its own non-profit corporation separately from UW. Our fund raising helps to fund projects we do with Extension and we donate money to Extension.
- The budgeting process is for budget requests to come with the Annual Reports in September and go to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee reviews and presents at November public meeting. Budget is then approved at the December meeting.
- Jennifer handed out expense budgets from 1995 – 2019.
 - We have been budgeting more in expenses than income the last few years.
 - We have maintained a reserve balance in our money market account.
- Additional Fundraising efforts
 - Jennifer stated that we are looking at additional fund raising efforts.
 - Diane Thieme stated that customers have requested a Bake sale at the Plant Sale.

Announcements

- The Member Garden Get Together event is June 23 from 2:00 – 4:00. An email has gone out with details. This is part of the welcoming project.
- The annual Picnic is August 15 at Mitchell Park.
- Racine/Kenosha Master Gardeners will have their business meeting at Wehr Nature center.
- There will be no project days in July.
- A Website committee will look at changes or errors on the website.
- **Next Member meeting August 7 at 6:30pm – Milwaukee County office building downstairs meeting room**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted, Bernita Hile, secretary