

Master Gardener Board Meeting January 3, 2012

Present: Mary Shepard, Co-President; Linda Petek, Co-President; Mary Wiedenmeier, Past Co-President; Kathy Daniels, Past Co-President; Jane Kuhn, Co-Vice President; Ivan Placko, Co-Vice President; Sue Egner, Treasurer; Alice Graf, Past Treasurer, Linda Baeten, Secretary; Marge Menacher, Carole Dorsch, Audrey Ruedinger, Anne Murphy, Diana Dougherty. Also present was Nick Schneider, UWEX Advisor.

Excused: Roy Anne Moulton.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00, a list of current officers and board members as of January 1, 2012, was provided by Kathy Daniels. Handouts were available.

Treasurer's Report: Alice Graf provided a handout. Balance of all accounts as of 12/31/11 is \$11,901.83. Anne Murphy and Linda Loker have completed an audit of the books. All is well and has been handed to the new Treasurer, Sue Egner.

Secretary's Report: No changes were made to the Board Minutes from November. There was no Board meeting in December. Linda has emailed them to Jean Reed for posting on the website and to Board Members.

Old Business

- Thank you to outgoing Board Members Bob Potter and Ken Hawk. They will be recognized with a letter of appreciation and an article in the Newsletter. Mary Wiedenmeier read a letter she received from Bob Potter.
- A Thank you gift was given to Alice Graf, Past Treasurer, for 4 years of service.

New Business

- UW Extension temporary replacement – Nick Schneider
 - Interviews took place last Wednesday. The pool of candidates was strong. Kimberly Miller was chosen. She does Urban Forestry for the DNR in Green Bay and is a Certified Arborist. She starts January 16 at 2 days a week and will pick up more hours in the summer. Nick is working with her on the details.
 - May consider a class on trees.
- Level II Training – Nick Schneider
 - Two 6 week classes of Level II training will be offered at the Coughlin Center.
 - Tuesdays from 6-9 PM
 - February 7 through March 13
 - March 20 through April 24
 - \$20.00 per session, collected at the door, checks payable to WCMGA.
 - An optional binder of \$50.00 may be purchased on-line.
 - Short notice. Those interested will need to get in touch with Nick or check the State Website.
 - Must be a Certified Master Gardener.
 - Mary Wiedenmeier will send an e-mail to the membership.
- Project Applications – Ivan and Jane
 - Most applications are in, some are still outstanding.
 - Ivan and Jane are working on the Project Lead meeting to be held at the Coughlin Center on February 29 at 5:30 PM. Includes a light supper. Ivan will e-mail the Leads. Jane and others will help with the food.

- Ivan proposed changes to the Application Form to accommodate the Core Projects that are on-going. Linda Baeten moved and Audrey seconded to have Ivan change the form. Ivan will forward the form to Jean Reed for posting on the Website.
- Discussion regarding project application and administration took place. Topics included applications, using the tax-exempt number, review of project status, signage for projects. All will be addressed at the Lead Meeting.
 - Alice will look into getting metal or wood signs made through the Oshkosh schools.
- Replacement of Speaker Lead – Audrey stepping down
 - The education committee was asked if someone would like to replace Audrey to find speakers for Business meetings. No one came forward.
 - The Board would like to continue providing speakers as it provides education hours for members, and is inspiring.
 - Mary Shepard will offer it to the membership at the next Business meeting and get an article to the Newsletter.
- Education Committee –
 - Preparations for Winter Escape/ Summer Dreams (February 4) are moving along. Questions are coming in and brochures have been mailed out. The Education Committee meets again tomorrow. Roy Anne will give a report at the Business Meeting.
 - There will be a bus trip to the Madison Expo on February 11. Marge Menacher is the lead. The price is the same as last year.

Any New Business:

Forms – Linda Baeten

Linda noted that the forms listed in the membership area of the website still need some revision. The question of how to get access to the Website for the purpose of updating forms came up again. Mary Shepard and Linda Petek will contact Jean Reed.

Updates to Membership Booklet – Diane Iott's Address needs to be updated.

Tax exempt number usage – discussion on how to get members to use the tax exempt number for project purchases.

- Attach it to the project application form.
- Create a list of preferred stores to facilitate use of the number.
- Develop a card that MGs could use that includes the tax exempt number and the UWEX address.
- Give warning that we will not reimburse for taxes paid on purchases for projects, as this could jeopardize our tax exempt status.

LIR Program – Mary Shepard

Mary mentioned Jeanne Snowhook, a Master Gardener and member of LIR will be presenting a program on flower photography on Friday, 10-11:30 AM at the Coughlin Center.

Next Board meeting: February 7, 2012, 6:00 PM, Volunteer Room at the Coughlin Center

Meeting Adjourned 7:13

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Baeten