

Winnebago County Master Gardener Association Minutes
Tuesday Feb. 1 , 2022 6:00 pm. **ZOOM** Board Meeting Agenda

1. Roll Call: Ed Dombrowski, Bob Kneepkens, Deb Butch, Kathy Procknow, Deb Voyles, Ruth Retzlaff, Invitations sent to Valerie Stabenow and/or Linda Werner representing the Education Committee **6pm**

2. Approval of Agenda-**Approved**

Meeting with Chris Vaiu/Kim Miller

1. Storage shed-**Discussed with Valerie, no changes, storage is still available, organize and define inventory**

2. Storage Areas-**Discussed with Valerie, at this moment in time, nothing needs to be moved, but may change.**

3. Ashley/Jody mail issues-**Chris will address, mail goes to Deb and Kathy, they will pick up the mail**

4. Plant Health Advisors-Maintain **office structure as exists, space still exists, PHA structure still on hold at the state level**

5. Update on Advisor- **Vacancy extended, currently in 2021 budget was still intact, levy budget reduction after July to all County departments, Vacant Horticulture position was targeted for reduction, go part time, hiring is still on the table, wants the position to succeed, looking at partnering with other counties to hire full time, no funds in WC to fund a FT position, no time table at this time, similarities and differences (titled as a horticulture specialist, advisor will be different in providing advice to MG. Focus will be on education, working with volunteers, horticulture outreach, no job description written, all horticulture extension volunteers must be staffed by a professional staff, MG can partner with this specialist but primarily focused on horticulture aspect, the role of this person will be very different from how we interacted with the last agent,**

6. Rain Garden Projects: **Transition for Rain garden, County property, will be maintained. County knows maintenance will be maintained for now, without an agent, the question will be how will volunteers be regulated. Extension volunteers may still still work on RG so long as it is an educational approach but no concrete plans at this time. Park View is similar. Should talk with facilities regarding Park View and RG, Kathy Granger is a contact person**

7. New Advisor interaction with WCMGA-See #5

Other: **Advisor indication is still open, no definitive time line at this time, sometime this year, maybe!, Does UW extension have any hard set rules on how an Association can spend their money? Associates are considered our own entity, they can spend their \$\$ however they want, keep lines of communication open, no longer tax exempt, we are non-profit, but not tax exempt, future questions should be funneled into 1 major collection point so 1 voice, not many.**

3. Consent Agenda

a. Secretaries Report

E. Dombrowski

No questions

b. Treasurers Report

D. Voyles

Bank statement not available due to date our meeting dates, Checking Acct: \$2025.15. Overall Bal. \$29,060.37

Total Bal. \$31, 485.52 Annual Report must be filed with new names of by March 31, 2022 (Kathy and Deb)

- c. Committee Reports
 - c1. Strategic Planning OPEN

No report

- c2. Education Committee V. Stabenow

Linda Werner and Valerie Stabenow continue to find educational opportunities for the membership, Reminder to do Onboarding Lite, 5 hrs. no fee, no exam

- d. Project Updates D. Butch/K/ Procknow

Consistent message should be sent out to all MG's, waiting to hear back from Kim

- e. Extension Report Ed Dombrowski

See conversation with Chris/Kim

- f. Communication Ed Dombrowski

None

4. Old Business

- a. Re-Organization/Alternative models Board

Discussion regarding several models, group favors more of a Board type structure, can open it up to membership, Sue Egner and Jan Wetterau-Houge have interest in Board positions, members are not interested in a lot of UW direction, disappointed in how it was done, do not want to do computer work just gardening, it has not been easy, then COVID came upon us, then UW and Extension changed direction

- b. Compliance with current by-laws Ed Dombrowski

Need to discuss further, review of by-laws needed

- c. Board Communication Ed Dombrowski

Keep communication consistent

5. New Business

- a. Membership letter Board

Inconsistencies exist regarding accuracy, O, Onboarding course, membership volunteer hours, ORS reporting, privacy, Rain Garden project, volunteer hours

- b. Liability Discussion D. Voyles

Invite agent to next meeting

- c. Membership Booklet Board

Deby will send out list to Board prior to sending to Ashley

d. WIMGA Rep

K. Procknow

**Valerie, any expenses regarding persons attendance at WIMGA meeting shall be reimbursed in full.
Second-Ruth Passed 5-0 Kathy Procknow will represent WCMGA**

e. Terminology for projects

K. Procknow/Deb Butch

Waiting for terminology and interpretation form UW

6. Adjourn

Next Business Meeting: Tuesday February 8th, 2022 6:00 pm. **(ZOOM)**

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday March 1st, 2022 6:00 pm. **(ZOOM)**

ZOOM information below:

Join Zoom Meeting-Feb.. 1st, 2022 6:00 pm.

Meeting ID: 269 496 5675

Pass code: 1N9zFq

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/2694965675?pwd=clpDVHNjS3ZzYzVHRjZFTZozZzFvUT09> (zero 9 or "O"9)

Dial by Location: 1 312 626 6799 (Chicago)

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