

Master Gardener Board Meeting

March 6, 2012

Present: Mary Shepard, Co-President; Mary Wiedenmeier, Past Co-President; Jane Kuhn, Co-Vice President; Ivan Placko, Co-Vice President; Sue Egner, Treasurer; Alice Graf, Past Treasurer, Linda Baeten, Secretary; Roy Anne Moulton, Marge Menacher, Carole Dorsch, Audrey Ruedinger, Anne Murphy, Diana Dougherty, Kimberly Miller.

Excused: Linda Petek, Co President; Kathy Daniels, Past Co-President

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Treasurer's Report: Sue Egner provided a handout. Total in the treasury is \$11,155.69 as of 2/29/12. The expense of Lawanda's book and the revenue from Winter Escape was not available for the February report. The Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

Secretary's Report: Linda has been sending Board Minutes to Jean Reed to post on the Website. There are still issues with the website being up to date. Linda has requested that Jean update the membership area, and will continue her efforts.

Old Business

- **Bowen Street Neighbor Works Project** – tabled until next meeting, may have been taken on by another group.

New Business

- **2012 budget** – a proposed budget for 2012 has not been developed to date. Sue Egner asked for input.
 - Basic Training- It was Kimberly's understanding that Level 1 training would take place in the Fall. Master Gardeners had proposed that it take place in Spring when there is more opportunity for new MGs to gain volunteer hours. **Mary Shepard and Kimberly will confer with Nick.**
 - Training/Seminars/Continuing Ed - Level II is currently taking place.
 - Cookbooks? **Mary Shepard will ask the membership at the business meeting if anyone still is harboring cookbooks.**
 - \$2,500.05 income was reported from Winter Escape. She would like a breakdown/summary of events and trips.
- **Continuing Education** – Marge Menacher. Nick used to get in touch with Marge when project requests would come from area schools. Marge would present it to the membership. **Discussion tabled until next meeting.**
- **New Requests for Speakers/Projects.** There are many requests for speakers. We don't have ready made presentations on hand, nor do many members know how to use Power Point.
 - A start has been made to pull UWEX material together. UWEX logo would be replaced by the MG logo.
 - **Need to find a group of people interested in organizing and presenting.**
 - **Need to find new digital photos**
 - UWEX has put together a tool for requests (see handout). When a request comes in, this form would be used to gather information either hand written, or as a fillable PDF on line. It would then be passed on to the Master Gardeners if appropriate. Ultimately this would be available on the website.
 - Oshkosh Planters project request – Mary Shepard. Mark Ziemer has asked if the MGs would be interested in planting, designing, maintaining 104 planters placed throughout the city of Oshkosh. They have approached LIR, and the Senior Center as well. Mary had some concerns:
 - Who will water them
 - Could perhaps do specific planters, not all.
 - The City used to take care of them.
 - The Downtown Merchants would pay for plant material.
 - We will wait for plans and structure before offering this project to our volunteers.
 - The Christine Anne Center asked for volunteers to care for plantings at the Center.
- **Project Presentations for the Business Meeting – Jane** - Projects include Lincoln School, Shared Harvest, Park View Vegetable and Cutting Gardens, Park View Flower Arranging, St. Raphael's.

- **Project Application/Lead Meeting Report – Ivan and Jane**
 - Where to shop – Fernau’s, Allenville and Festival Foods have been added to the list. The first to buy could set up the account.
 - Signs – there were 5 requests for signs: Humane Society, Webster and Washington Schools, Lincoln School, and the Conservancy Park. **Alice will take a sign to West High Industrial Tech classes and have them design a sign for us. She will get back to the group.**
 - There was a request for seasoned MGs to mentor newcomers on projects.
 - The Tax- Exempt Form shall not be posted on the website.
 - MG Banners are kept in the closet in the Coughlin Center meeting room. **Linda Baeten will develop a sign-out sheet for the closet door and bring to the next business meeting.**
- **News from the UWEX – Kimberly**
 - Julie Grundy has resigned. Any new MG requests should go to Kimberly. If it is time sensitive, pass it along to Melody or Sharon in the UWEX office. Kim is in 2.5 days a week, usually Tuesdays and Wednesdays, but the days may vary.
 - It was moved and seconded, Audrey/Alice to get Julie a gift certificate for \$50.00 to show our appreciation for all her work over the years. Motion carried unanimously. **Diana will get the card and certificate.** A newsletter article will be sent.
- **Project Application – Shared Harvest.** Ken Friedman has requested \$250 for the Shared Harvest Project. An application was received. The project is similar to last year and includes, among other things, “Adopt a Tomato” and donation of excess produce to the Food Pantry. Moved and seconded, Linda Baeten/Mary Wiedenmeier to accept the project. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Individual Project – Mary Shepard** - New MG Virginia Slattery would like to do “Plant Basics for Little Ones” at Grace Lutheran School. Certified MG, Arlene Kosanke will work with her. **Mary will OK the project.**
- **Education Committee Report – RoyAnne**
 - Winter Escape was a success
 - Two spots are still available for the Philadelphia trip
 - Trip insurance is to be obtained on your own
 - Leaving from Milwaukee
 - Garden Expo Trip – Marge reported all went well except the vendors were not available until 9:00 and the bus had arrived at 8:00.
 - Pruning Workshop – Audrey reported there has been a great response. Audrey will contact Dave Leonard regarding limiting attendance. There may be problems due to publishing his address in the Newspaper.
- **Lawanda’s Book – Mary Shepard** shared a copy.
 - Need a sales team to get the book out. 500 copies were ordered. Discussion on how/who to market the book.
 - Lawanda may do a talk at the library. **Diana will forward her the contact.**
 - **Linda Werner will work on publicity.**
 - It will be available for the Home and Garden show and the Paine Festival.
 - Diana requested a signed copy to give back to Carl Traeger students who contributed art work. **Mary will talk to Lawanda.**
- **Worm Castings – Mary** had contacted Ken Hawk.
 - We need a pick-up truck to get the worm castings. Ann Murphy offered a truck. We can get 3 drums.

Any New Business:

Amish Bus Trip – Marge will not do another trip to the Amish Greenhouses. There has been a request for a map, but it was decided not to give one out. Generally we do not endorse businesses.

Individual Projects with multiple participants – Ivan suggested these projects should remain individual. Most of them are at churches. No money is involved.

Milfoil eradication in Lake Winnebago - Linda Baeten asked if the MGs would like to request a hearing by the DNR to explain the use of pesticides on Eurasian Milfoil in Lake Winnebago. A hearing may also be requested by a group of 5 or

more individuals. It was decided to keep the request as an individual group. Linda will check it out and get back to those who expressed interest.

Farm Technology Days – Mary will get information out to the membership.

Next Board meeting: April 3, 2012, 6:00 PM, Volunteer Room at the Coughlin Center

Meeting Adjourned, Sue/Diana, unanimously 7:55 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Linda Baeten