

**Master Gardeners Board Meeting  
April 6, 2010**

The Meeting was called to order by Kathy Daniels, 6:00 pm

Present: Kathy Daniels, Ivan Placko, Alice Graf, Linda Baeten, Sue Bohn, Stan Meyer, Bob Potter, Ken Hawk, Roy Anne Moulton, Marge Menacher, Audrey Ruedinger

Excused: Mary Wiedenmeier

Also Present: Jerry Robak, Ruth Freye, Pat Behm, Barb Kuhn

**Treasurer's Report – Alice Graf**

As of 3/31/10 we have a checking account balance of \$12,456.49, \$100 cash, and Certificate of Deposit of for \$5,081.29, for a total of \$17,637.78.

This includes expenses and income from Winter Escape/Summer Dreams, which basically broke even, however, we got good exposure. LaSure's was expensive, but so were the other venues that were researched.

**Secretary's Report – Linda Baeten**

The Minutes from the March Business meeting were mentioned. A Correction needs to be made under New Business. Change Staci White, to Staci Voight. Linda will announce the correction at the next Business Meeting.

**Project Approval – Ivan Placko**

Community gardens –Jerry Robak, Ruth Freye and Pat Behm. This has been an on-going project since 2006. Many expenses have been paid personally in the past. This year they are asking the Community Gardens to be split into three projects. Jerry is planning to do a native Wisconsin garden in a shady area, and purchase plants from the Wild Ones, estimated cost \$200. Pat asked for \$75 for a flower garden and Ruth \$400. If not split into three projects, it exceeds the \$500 cap.

Ruth explained they are not always there at the same time and it is difficult to treat it as one project, and explained some of the particular obstacles they face. She would like to use perennials instead of annuals for much of the project. Audrey suggested putting a list of desired plant material out to the membership to see if the MGs could donate. She is particularly looking for ground covers. We could either send out an email or announce at a meeting.

Baeten/Ruedinger made a motion to not split the project, but to approve \$700 for this year, to be reviewed each year. Motion carried unanimously.

Habitat for humanity: Audrey presented for Dave Leonard. This project received \$250 in grant money from State MG organization plus asking for \$400 from Winnebago County MGs. The Grant was for plant material and education. Dave wants to use some money for printed guides. It was suggested he look into having the guides printed at UWEX office for less money. Total for project \$650, approved unanimously.

Lincoln School!: There was a question as to who owns the triangle of land at the project, especially since the school is for sale. However, it is an on-going project in a highly visible area. They are asking up to

\$500 for worm castings, soil amendments, mulch, plants, and signage. Moulton/Potter moved to approve up to \$500. Motion carried unanimously.

Park View Cutting Garden: Bill Weber is the lead for this project. He is asking up to \$500 for plant material and soil. Approved, unanimously.

Shared Harvest: Ken Friedman is the lead. He is asking for \$265 for seeds, garden supplies, and developing the "Adopt a Tomato" initiative. Approved, unanimously.

Plant Health Advisors: Barb Kuhn is the lead. She had an Annual Report from last year. 362 calls were received from Jan to Oct. 38% were about trees, 11% fruit, 6% disease, and others. No request for funds. This is an on-going project in cooperation with the UWEX.

Holocaust Memorial Garden: Barb Kuhn does this individual project located at 1121 Algoma Blvd, across from Reed School. Schools and classes tour the garden. Some MGs have already worked on it. No funding requested. Approved.

Discussion took place on finding a specific vendor to buy plant material from for MG projects, thereby simplifying and coordinating purchases for our projects. Schroth's Wholesale in Menasha may be a source for garden supplies. Roy Anne will check into it. Ivan mentioned that Project Leads get a copy of the tax ID number so they can use it when purchasing materials and plants.

#### **Winter Escape Summer Dreams Report – Roy Anne Moulton**

- A handout of comments from the survey was available, and results of the ratings. Most remarks were favorable.
- We broke even on the event, but the numbers do not reflect donations in kind.
- LaSure's was reasonably priced, but a little crowded. There was a suggestion to research using UWO facilities next time.
- Good PR for us. Could get a following. Could charge more. Could have more vendors. Our vendors were also sponsors. Find a larger place. Suggestions. Feedback on the event.

Roy Anne remodeled the MG brochure and brought samples. Linda Werner helped with proofreading. Potter/Bohn moved to adopt the brochure. Motioned carried, unanimously.

**SOPs** – Ivan and Alice did not have time to review the SOPs since the last meeting. It will be on the next agenda.

#### **Taking Root Donation – Linda Baeten**

Discussion took place on whether to donate to the Oshkosh City's beautification effort, "Taking Root" and whether hours spent on planting for Taking Root would count towards volunteer hours. Linda had contacted the Oshkosh Foundation and eventually the Oshkosh City Forrester, Dan Sturm. He would appreciate help with planting flower beds. Plant material has been contracted. Motion to donate \$1500, and have hours count for volunteer hours, Moulton/Hawk. Motion carried, unanimously. Linda will bring more information to the business meeting regarding planting sites and times.

**Education committee:**

- Amish Trip – Marge Menacher - Two busses are almost full for this trip. Only cash or checks will be accepted for plants. Marge will remind participants to bring a lunch, suitable stacking containers, and a gentle attitude.
- Wildflower Walk, May 1st. Karen Wedde will get information on the wildflower walk.
- Garlic Mustard Pull, two weekends in May. Lawanda
- Ball Horticulture trip, August 7. Roy Anne is working on the details.
- April Business Meeting: - Audrey
  - Stacy Voight is scheduled for a Facebook lesson at 6:15.
  - Jason from Stuart's will speak from 6:30-7:30. Bring a friend.

**Door prizes from Miles Kimball**

Miles Kimball has donated door prizes to Mary Wiedenmeier for the MGs.

**New business**

- Marge Menacher – had seeds left from the school projects. They are from Burpee, packed for 2009. She will bring them to the business meeting.
- June 8<sup>th</sup> is the pot luck picnic and plant swap.
- Marge has been notified of our latest FVTC scholarship recipient. She will have the details for the business meeting,
- Linda Baeten asked if donations could be accepted for the Animal Shelter Project. Anyone wishing to donate may do so, but we would not send a letter for tax purposes. We could send a letter of appreciation or a card. If a tax donation letter is required, they could ask the Animal Shelter. Linda will get in touch with Dara Sitter, project lead.
- Paine Festival of Spring is May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Adjourned 8:00.