

WINNEBAGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
TUESDAY May 3, 2022 6:00 PM
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting was called to order by Ed Dombrowski at 6:04 p.m.

Attending: Ed Dombrowski, Deb Butch, Kathy Procknow, Ruth Retzlaff, Valerie Stabenow, Sue Egner, Linda Werner, Jean Reed, Deby Voyles

Absent: Bob Kneepkens

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Communication was listed under Consent Agenda and should have been listed under Old Business. It was moved. Two additions were added to the agenda under new business: membership sustainability and Google drive account. The agenda was approved with the additions.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Secretaries Report J. Reed
Minutes were sent to board members prior to the meeting.
- b. Treasurer's Report D. Butch, K. Procknow
As of April 30, 2022, checking balance was \$4,060.07, cash on hand was \$100 and the money market account was \$25,083.42. It was noted that Deby V. took, Kathy and Deb B. to Community First for signatures on the accounts and that in the future there should be documentation in the minutes stating who the new treasurer(s) were.
- c. Committee Reports
 - i. Education Committee V. Stabenow
WIMGA training locked out many people as there were too many people in the ZOOM meeting. They are able to view the presentation online for about a month and WIMGA was very apologetic.
- d. Project Updates (Rename?) D. Butch, K. Procknow
Suggestion was made to change to coordinator vs. project lead. It is more descriptive of what the lead person does—coordinates.
Discussion was carried on regarding organizations vs. projects—volunteer opportunities or volunteer work sites. We are recommending leaving the signs up that say MG projects. We are rebranding. It was agreed we should change the name from project updates to volunteer opportunities.
- e. Extension Update V. Stabenow
Chris V. and Mike M. are still working on what to do for counties with no representative. Mike has offered to step up for us. Chris is still working on the job description for Winnebago County Horticulture Advisor. Cost was discussed for how to become a Master Gardener. Cost will be nearly \$400. Some counties are still having live training. All training is online now.
- f. WIMGA Report K. Procknow
Next Wednesday, May 11, there will be an Eastern District WIMGA meeting. Kathy will attend meeting.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Dissolution Plan 2nd reading L. Werner, V. Stabenow
Valerie said there were no issues we will just do the 2nd reading at the next membership meeting. It was agreed to take to the membership.
- b. Transfer Money Market Funds to Community Fund K. Procknow/D. Butch
What do you want to put into the fund? And what do you want to keep for our operating needs. Website costs (\$40 per year domain registration and \$170 per year hosting) and ZOOM account costs \$190 per year. Ashley has some copy costs but nothing since COVID April 2020. Present to the membership do you want to move the money to the Community Foundation. Meet with the Scholarship Committee and talk to them about what that would mean for them and that they would still be the choosing entity for the scholarship. Ask for general approval to move the bulk of the money to the Community Foundation. Ed will present to membership.
- c. Restructure plan (separate meeting?, ad hoc team?) Board
The board decided table this and have a separate meeting just related to this topic. Discussion followed as to whether to invite other interested members. Invite them to a round table discussion. Linda will the lead and set up the meeting.
- d. Clarify what by-laws have been suspended V. Stabenow, E. Dombrowski
The web site does not have the most current copy of the By-laws. Valerie went through section by section what should and should not be suspended. Section I and II keep; suspend III A,B,C,D; suspend IV a; V Need to keep in the Board of Directors as long as we are a “non-stock corporation”; VI 1, 2, 3, suspend; VI keep 4,5 (need to keep minutes); VI 6 suspend; VI 7,8,9,10 keep; keep VII and VIII 1,2,3,4,5,6; suspend VIII 7; suspend IX; suspend X; suspend XI; suspend XII. Dissolution clause will be section XIII and we will keep. Revisiting and we are reinstating these sections are the general membership meeting.
- e. Membership booklet K. Procknow
Ashley still has our old membership list and is still using that to send out newsletters and worm castings sale. We need to give the members a listing of the membership. Membership booklets cost \$600 last printing. Ed said we need to ask the membership if they want to be on the listing. Ed will call Ashley in the morning about using the correct listing.
- f. May 10 membership meeting Zoom or not? E. Dombrowski
We have an educational component for the business meeting and Ed would like to see people in person at the meeting. One hour for education first,
- g. Communication K. Procknow
This topic was discussed along with the membership booklet topic.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. 2022 Worm castings S. Egner
We sold 595 lbs. of worm castings. Bagging will be on Monday, May 9 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Pick up will be the same day from 2:30-4:30 p.m. There will be some extra and several board members volunteered to buy some of the extra.
- b. Materials inventory Board
Sue will work on the storage and the shed. Ed and Jill will work on the closet. Ed proposed a sunset date of August to get it done.
- c. Non-stock Corporation K. Procknow/V. Stabenow
Until we decide what we want to do with the organization, we need to keep the officers per the non-stock corporation papers.

- d. Membership Sustainability E. Dombrowski
We have not had new member classes for three years. We had 88 members and are down to 52 members. This gap will cause us a problem in future years. Cost is \$400 for training. What are we going to do about sustainability? We need to start thinking about it.
- e. Google Drive Account J. Reed, E. Dombrowski
The extension office had a Google Drive which our association was using to store documents. Kathy P. and Deb B. were given access to the drive by Kimberly. Ed emailed Kimberly and asked her about ownership of the drive. Kimberly stated the folders were Madison folders owned by her. She stated we should work on moving those files elsewhere as a precaution since she is no longer working at the local level. Jean will investigate creating a Google Account that we can share that is owned by our Master Gardener group.
- f. Reimbursement for Expenses E. Dombrowski
Ed proposed that Jean be reimbursed for website expenses (domain name registrations and hosting costs with GoDaddy). He also proposed that the WIMGA representative should be paid for mileage. Valerie Stabenow made a motion to reimburse Jean and pay the WIMBA representative mileage. Linda seconded the motion. Motion passed.

6. ADJOURN

At 8:23 p.m., it was moved by the Board en masse and seconded by board en masse to adjourn. Motion passed.

Next Business/Membership meeting: May 10, 2022 Coughlin Center and Zoom
Next Board Meeting: June 7th, 2022 Coughlin Center and Zoom