

Winnebago County Master Gardener Board Meeting
June 5, 2012

Present: Mary Shepard, Co-President; Linda Petek, Co-President; Jane Kuhn, Co-Vice President; Ivan Placko, Co-Vice President; Sue Egner, Treasurer; Linda Baeten, Secretary; Roy Anne Moulton, Education Committee; Marge Menacher; Audrey Ruedinger; Carole Dorsch; Diana Dougherty; and Kimberly Miller, UWEX Advisor.

Excused: Co President; Mary Wiedenmeier, Past Co-President; Kathy Daniels, Past Co-President; Alice Graf, Past Treasurer, Ann Murphy.

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

Treasurer's report – Sue Egner - Handout available

- All accounts as of 5/31/12 is \$13,010.23
- An extra sheet for trips income/expense was available.
- Lawanda's Book sales have now covered expenses. It is hard to tell how many books were sold due to various prices offered. Sue is estimating \$15.00 / book.
- Money dispersed to the Projects comes to \$910.63 at this point.

Secretary Report – Linda Baeten

Newsletters that contain the Business Meeting minutes should be posted on website. Diana sends the Newsletter to Jean Reed as a Word document. Jean proofs the Newsletter and sends it back to be emailed to the membership. Board Minutes are posted on the Website separately.

RoyAnne requested an amendment to the May Board minutes. Income (not profit) from Winter Escape was \$7,880. Linda will send info to Jean and check the website.

Linda gave a cash donation to Sue Egner from the Winnebago County Health Department Sunshine Committee to the Winnebago County Master Gardener Volunteer Assoc. A worthwhile cause is chosen each time for "Casual Day" dues at the Health Department. Linda will send a thank you note to the Health Department.

OLD BUSINESS

Picnic – Mary Shepard

- Mary and Kathy are not present tonight. They asked for volunteers to come early for set up.

Newsletter Distribution – Kimberly

- Kimberly will do letters to inform members we will no longer be sending hard copies, with the exception of those who don't have email. An example of the letters was passed around. It had been costing \$300.00 plus a year to send out 24 hard copies of the Newsletter.

Worm Casting Brochure – Mary Shepard

- It was decided to change the color blocks on the Wormiculite from red to green, and to leave the worm on the cover.

NEW BUSINESS

Winchester Historical Society – Kimberly

- Looking for volunteers for flower beds and historical gardens. They want to think about what they want to do and go back to their board. It probably won't be this summer, but will bring it back this fall. They have a building and grounds person.

Oshkosh flower pots – Mary Shepard

- We have adopted 19 flower pots on the 500 block of N. Main St. The City of Oshkosh will water them, but they will need weeding, trash taken out, and dead heading (wear gloves). It should take about an hour. A group of MGs potted them up. A sign-up sheet will be available at the picnic.

Summer activities - Linda Petek

- Jamie from the Wild Ones, will offer us a tour of the Wild Ones Center and Gardens In Menasha on Strobe Island, July 10. Tour begins at 6:00. Light refreshments will be provided. We will be able to use the kitchen. Look for an article in the Newsletter and an announcement at the picnic.
- Octagon House tour on Aug 14 – perhaps also visit the Community Gardens that evening. Linda Petek will check with Ruth Freye.
- Carole Dorsch and Linda Merz have offered their gardens, near Pickett, for a walk. Linda Petek will contact them for a time.

Education Committee – Roy Anne

- Philadelphia Tour – Roy Anne received a \$348 refund check from Winterthur. We had overpaid for the tour at Winterthur. Everyone was pleased with the trip, all went well.
- Roy Anne requested permission/support from the Board to look into a trip for July 2013 to Butchart Gardens and Bainbridge Island in the Pacific Northwest. This would be more expensive, and she will get extra help as it is a large task. She will also consider other venues.
- A liability policy needs to be in place first. We have insurance quotes. It will cost \$225 to \$250 annually to carry the insurance. We will also look into waivers. Sue Egner has a waiver for buckthorn eradication from the City of Oshkosh.

Ivan moved/Sue Egner second to have Roy Anne develop a trip for 2013.

- Winter Escape Summer Dreams will be February 2, 2013. The keynote speaker will be Michael Yanni from Johnston Nursery. Audrey will get info to Linda Werner to make a flyer. Looking for additional speakers for Urban Gardening. Parking at UWO will be an issue. We need better communication this time around.
- Next Education Committee meeting will be June 20, at Kosanke's, pot luck.

Book Project – Mary Shepard

- We are in the black. Book sales have already covered expenses.
- Mary had an example of a poster to put around.
- Lawanda will be at the Oshkosh Library June 12, for sales and signing at 12:30. Will donate a book to the library.
- OK for members to take books to work to sell. Mary has some and Lawanda has some. Will bring some to the picnic.

Pruning workshop – Kimberly

- The first official planning meeting is today.
- Brown, Outagamie, Winnebago DNR to offer 3 full day workshops, one in each county, and one half day in Appleton. Full day workshops are during the week, the half day session is on a Saturday. Limited to 50 per day.
- The cost is \$35 or \$20. Earlybird special. UWEX will handle the registrations. Dan Trass to lead the class.

Discussion took place regarding tree planting for Oshkosh City. There is a need to give info to the residents on care and selection of their tree. Kimberly recommended talking to Eileen at the OACF to see if she thinks Master Gardeners could proceed with this idea. The trees were from “Shade Today”. Mary Shepard will think it through.

Membership list – Mary Shepard

Mary will talk to Alice about what is happening with the list. Alice kept the list because of membership dues. Mary and Kimberly will check it out.

Discussion: Should we offer a welcome letter to new members (such as the Wild Ones do) after they finish the class?

Level 1 training - Kimberly.

Advertise training by promoting the core projects. Which projects would work best for this?

- Divide into categories such as Education, Youth, Invasives, Farmers Market. Mary, Ivan, and Jane will help develop this as they work with the projects. Kimberly will need info by the end of the month.

Newsletter - Diana

- Need an article in the newsletter explaining the hours sheet. Mary will do an article.

New Project - Sue Egner

A Prairie area known as Atkins Acres at North HS has been abandoned. Sue talked to Chad Dahlman from City Parks regarding restoration. He will work on putting it into their budget for next year. Thinking about a burn.

We need to reinforce we are not here for maintenance, but collaboration is good.

Adjourn 6:55 Jane Kuhn/Sue Egner.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Baeten, Secretary
Winnebago County Master Gardeners