

## **Winnebago County Master Gardener Board Meeting August 7, 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; Anne Murphy; Mary Wiedenmeier, Past Co-President; Kathy Daniels, Past Co-President; and Kimberly Miller, UWEX Advisor.

Excused: Alice Graf, past Treasurer.

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

### **Treasurer's report – Sue Egner - Handout available**

- All accounts as of 6/30/12 were \$13,025.32. Total of all accounts as of 7/31/12 is \$12,977.37.
- Certificate of Deposit will renew on 8/22/12. It earned \$5.00 in interest after 6 months.
- The Year-to-Date handout showed most projects are on target or better.

### **Secretary Report – Linda Baeten**

- There was no Board meeting in July.
- June Minutes should be posted on the Website.
  1. Need to go through the website and list all forms that need to be updated
  2. Remove dates from forms; use "current president" instead of names.
  3. Katie Roen could develop fillable PDF forms for us.
  4. Mary Haave, MG member, has computer skills.
  5. Kim and Nick will follow up.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Post Office Box – Mary Shepard**

- Normal, ongoing business will continue to be sent to Sue Egner's address. The PO Box would be used for the Education Committee only.
- PO Box would need to be in someone's name.
- UWEX does not handle money for MG Volunteer activity.
- Roy Anne will go back to the Education Committee to identify needs/name of individual.

#### **Liability Insurance – Kimberly**

- Mike Maddox, new Director for the State has concerns regarding liability insurance, as he feels liability may come back to the State or County.
- Nick would like to see us go ahead and get the insurance because we have extraordinary trips.
- We are not officially a 501.3c, but operate within the meaning of such an organization.
- Mary Shepard and Linda Petek have some quotes for the cost of insurance, and will report back to the Board.

#### **Worm Casting Brochure – Mary Shepard**

- Decided to wait on printing new brochures as the State has decided to remodel the MG logo, however, we will print as many as needed for immediate needs.
- Decided to remove the word "organic". Anne Murphy will tweak the brochure and send it to Katie Roen to print 100 copies.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **New Projects – Ivan Placko**

- Judy Lucas has turned in an individual project request to have a garlic mustard pull in her neighborhood.
- This could be included in the Core Invasives Project. [Audrey and Lawanda to tweak the language of the Invasives Project to include individual projects for next year.](#)
- The Board approved the project by consensus.

### **Horticulture Educator – Mary Shepard**

- Lawanda approached Mary regarding preserving the position of Horticulture Educator in Winnebago County.
- Kimberly is doing a great job for us, but is funded by the State. No State funds are available for a County Horticulturalist.
- [Mary Shepard will meet with Chris Kneip, UWEX Department Head, and Nick to see what could be done. The County is currently setting budgets for 2013, and timing may not be good.](#)
- We will need testimonials if we decide to pursue the issue.

### **Officer Nominations – Mary Shepard**

- Vice President, Secretary, and Member at Large positions are up for re-election. Mary Wiedenmeier and Kathy Daniel's positions will expire, as well as Alice Graf.
- Audrey has headed the Nomination Committee for many years, and would appreciate it if others would step up this year.
- Recruitment should start in September; voting is in November.
- [Mary Wiedenmeier, Ivan Placko and Linda Petek volunteered to be on the Nominating Committee.](#)

### **Awards Dinner – Mary Shepard**

- Award Banquet will be held Tuesday, December 4 at Bridgewood.
- [Linda Petek will contact Bridgewood.](#)
- [Linda Petek and Mary Shepard will plan the banquet with the help of others; will ask for volunteers.](#)

### **Hours and Dues – Mary Shepard**

- An article will go in the Newsletter, need to spread the word to get hours in on time.
- The form needs updating, but will use it as is for the time being.
- Patty Schmitz is still calculating the hours
- Dawn Merten compiles the membership list, dues go to Sue Egner. [Linda Baeten will do the membership list if Dawn is not willing to continue.](#)
- An article in the Newsletter refers to the Website for the form.
- [Hard copies of the Membership form will be available at the September Business Meeting; will do a demonstration on how to fill out the form.](#)

### **Education Committee – Roy Anne Moulton**

- A group from the Pennsylvania Trip met for a potluck and viewing of photos. [Roy Anne would do a presentation for the Business Meeting.](#)
- The Education Committee meets tomorrow for Winter Escape/Summer Dreams planning.
- Roy Anne has begun to gather information regarding a trip to Seattle.

### **Book Project – Mary Shepard**

- Sales are beginning to calm down, plan to do a Christmas Gift campaign and sell copies at Winter Escape/Summer Dreams.

### **Pruning Workshop - Kimberly**

- Still need people to sign up
- September 15<sup>th</sup> is the half-day session at FVTC in Appleton; the Early Bird cut-off is August 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Full day sessions are Sept 13<sup>th</sup> in Green Bay, Sept 20<sup>th</sup> in Oshkosh and Sept 27<sup>th</sup> in Appleton.

### **Membership List – Mary Shepard**

The list needs to be kept up to date.

### **Level 1 Training Recruitment – Kimberly**

- We only have 10 so far, but need to find more. Need to spread the word and follow up with people who were given the wrong orientation date.
- Kimberly will check on the policy regarding current Master Gardeners who wish to re-take Basic Training.
- Cost of class is \$90 to cover the cost of materials. Old manuals are fine, but some of the older supplemental material is out of date.
- Classes are web-based, but more hands on activities will be provided. There are opportunities for MGs to teach.
- A list of classes is available. Class starts September 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

Grants – Roy Anne reported grant applications are due October 1<sup>st</sup>. There are three grants: \$400, \$250, and \$100. Discussion followed. The Board agreed Roy Anne should apply for \$400 to upgrade our exhibit boards and equipment, and \$250 in educational materials for the After School Program, and \$100 for Master Gardener signage on projects. Roy Anne will contact:

- Cindy Meszaros and Joni Pagel regarding exhibit materials.
- Marge Menacher for the After School Program
- Alice Graf for the signs.

Tours – August 14<sup>th</sup> tour of the Octagon House and Fox Cities Community Gardens to begin at 6:00 pm.

Adjourn 8:08, Mary Wiedenmeier/Ivan Placko.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Baeten, Secretary  
Winnebago County Master Gardeners