

Winnebago County Master Gardener Board Meeting September 4, 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; Carole Dorsch; Diana Dougherty; Anne Murphy; Mary Wiedenmeier & Kathy Daniels, Past Co-Presidents.

Excused: Audrey Ruedinger; Alice Graf; Kathy Daniels; and Kimberly Miller, UWEX Advisor.

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

Treasurer's Report: Sue Egner

Treasurer's report – Sue Egner - Handout available

- All accounts as of 8/31/12 were \$12,483.10.
- Year to Date Budget is in the black.
- Many Projects still need to turn in their costs.
- Jane noted some corrections on the projects regarding names. *Sue will correct the report for the next meeting.*

Secretary's Report: Linda Baeten

- August Board minutes have been forwarded to Jean Reed for posting on the website.
- August Business minutes have been forwarded to Diana for posting in the Newsletter.

OLD BUSINESS

Post Office Box:

- Diane Iott has arranged for the Post Office Box.

Liability Insurance: Linda Petek

- It will cost \$212.00 a year for 1 million per occurrence with a 2 million maximum and \$5,000 medical coverage from American Family.
- *Jane/Roy Anne moved and second to approve getting liability insurance for WCMGAV. Board voted unanimously to approve. Linda will obtain the policy.*

Signs

- Alice is working with West High School for MG signs.
- The signs will not include the logo.

Worm castings

- The brochure has been update thanks to Anne Murphy.
- *Katie Roen will get some printed at the UWEX.*

NEW BUSINESS

New Projects – no new projects at this time.

Horticulture Educator – Mary Shepard

- Mary talked to Nick regarding getting a Horticulture position with Winnebago County. Because it is so late in the budget cycle for this year, we could aim for next year to have a dedicated educator. If we could have Kimberly that would be good, but we would want the position either way.

- A job description and reasons why we want the County to hire a Horticulture Educator would be needed. Find what other counties do. Could be half time position.
- Ivan/Linda Baeten moved and second to wait until next year to pursue the position.

Newsletter – Diana Dougherty

- Diana would like to redo the process of publishing the newsletter. Diana would work with Mary Haave to update the newsletter format and find someone to proofread. Anne Murphy is also willing to help.
- Would like to have Katie Roen send it out as a PDF to everyone if the UWEX is willing, effective for the next Newsletter.
- Mary will check with Kimberly. Think about how to change the newsletter.

Website – Mary Shepard

- Kim talked to Nick. They found we don't have a contract to do the website.
- Would like to set some goals and dates. Ask Jean for help. What do we want the website to be? What is the timeline for posting information? Need a second person with access to website. UWEX will not do our website.
- Host site is good for 2 years.
- Looking for a team from the Board to work on website updates. Team to meet after the next Business meeting. Check out the State Website for information on what other Counties do.

Katie Roen assistance – Mary Shepard

- E-mails are getting out of control due to too many requests. Need to let Katie know who the e-mails go to, and whether they need to be mailed to those without computer access.

Officer Nominations –

- Mary Wiedenmeier, Linda Petek, and Ivan will plan to meet. Will need to check the bylaws.
 - Jane & Ivan will run again for Vice President. Thank you!
 - Linda B does not want to run for Secretary again, and will send information on possible contacts.
 - Have the candidates give a bio at the October business meeting.
 - Anyone having suggestions for candidates should contact the Nominating Committee.

Awards dinner - Linda Petek

- Linda booked the Bridgewood for Tues, Dec 4th. Last year we charged for the dinner and gratuity. MCMGA contributed approximately \$6.00 per person.
 - Check on the cost of the projector and screen. Think about door prizes.
 - Roy Anne offered to be the Master of Ceremonies.

Hours/Dues – Mary Shepard

- There has been a problem with the e-mail address for Patty Schmitz. We will have to push the deadline back for getting hours in. Linda Petek will get in touch with Patty to see where we are.
 - Hours form needs updating.
- Membership dues are coming to Linda Baeten.
 - Patty may have a list of past members that we could contact to encourage those who have not renewed to stay.
- UWEX does the Membership booklet.

Education Committee – Roy Anne

- A second speaker has been found for Winter Escape – topic: Urban Gardening.
- All the information for the brochure is now available.

Book project – Mary Shepard

- Moving along nicely, hope to sell more during the Holiday season.

Pruning workshop – Mary Shepard

- Classes are filling up. Oshkosh is filled.

Membership list – Mary Shepard

- MGs to keep control of the membership list. Linda Baeten is capturing the information as the dues come in.

Growing Oshkosh

A new group for Urban Gardens in Oshkosh has modeled on Will Allen's Growing Power. Dani Stolley is the lead. Mary Wiedenmeier contacted her, and talked with her about speaking at one of our meetings.

- Discussion followed on whether this could be a Core Project. Certain projects such as the Paine, Wild Ones, or Growing Power may not need a Project Lead or be considered Core Projects. A contact person or liaison might be more appropriate. We may need to tweak the SOPs again. Send suggestions to Ivan.
- [Marge Menacher will check into a trip to Will Allen's Growing Power.](#)

Next meeting:

Business Meeting: **September 11, 2012 at 5:30 to accommodate classes.** Katie will send out a reminder about the early meeting time.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Baeten, Secretary
Winnebago County Master Gardeners