

WINNEBAGO COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
TUESDAY, Sept. 6, 2022, 6:00 PM
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

1. **ROLL CALL:** Ed Dombrowski, Deb Butch, Kathy Procknow, Ruth Retzlaff, Valerie Stabenow, Sue Egner, Linda Werner, Jean Reed (Deby Voyles and Madisen Potratz invited as a guests.)
Ed called the meeting to order 6:04 p.m.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
Madisen will be first on agenda. Motion passed.
3. Madisen Potratz introduced herself as the new Horticultural Educator for Winnebago County. Her first day last Monday or Tuesday. She has no formal education in horticulture. Her degree in is in art. She moved back home with her grandma and learned to maintain her grandmother's gardens with the help of her Master Gardener Aunt. She will be learning as she goes. The Board then introduced themselves to Madisen. Linda explained our current reorganization plan.
4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - a. Secretaries Report J. Reed
Minutes have been posted to the web site.
 - b. Treasurer's Report D. Butch, K. Procknow
Beginning balance of \$4,349.31
Expenses: gift cards for garden tours, cash on hand \$100 ending balance \$4,399.31
Scholarship check still not cashed but the recipients normally don't cash the checks until the beginning of the school year. Kathy or Deb should call the insurance company and let them know we are canceling and not continuing. After October 1, we may need insurance but currently we are not sure of the status of the organization.
 - c. Committee Reports
 1. Education Committee V. Stabenow
Dane County Extension's Fall Green Thumb Gardening Series is posted to the website. Classes are online. Cost is \$12 per class or \$140 for the whole series of 14 classes.
September 12th is a WIMGA Zoom.
Now that it is fall programs will start to pick up.
 - d. Volunteer Opportunities D. Butch, K. Procknow
Deb and Kathy contacted all the volunteer organizations to get their feedback with how their summer season went. Omro Carter library needs help. Miravida Living said they had enough help. NHS said the MG did a great job. Neenah Public Library had a small group of volunteers said they could use more help. Oshkosh Area Humane Society needs more volunteers. Paine Art Center could still use more volunteers and more into the fall. Morgan House did not respond. Coughlin Rain Garden could use more help. Farmers Market was not an opportunity this year due to liability insurance issues. Plant Health Advisors are having issues getting information out. Parkview still not heard from. Neenah-Menasha YMCA had two volunteers but the person who requested help didn't have funds available. The two volunteers created a list of what they did. Some of what the YMCA wants MG to do is really for a professional landscaper. Presbyterian Church could use more help. St. Raphael seems to have enough help.

- e. Extension Update V. Stabenow
Chris Viau introduced Madisen Potratz as the new Horticulture Educator. Valerie will be unable to have any access to ORS data due to privacy concerns. She asked for the number of active members, she only wanted numbers. There are 59 people living in Winnebago County that are reporting hours in ORS.
- f. WIMGA Report K. Procknow
WIMGA grants–Kathy sent out a note to the leads about the grants. We can only apply for one at each level. NHS is planning on applying for the \$400 grant for the Council Elm tree. The email list will be the responsibility of the treasurer. WIMGA dues can be paid for by each member. Eastern district rep they chose was not able to fulfill the role. Supposed to be a meeting scheduled in September but not any set yet.
- g. Communication Board
None

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Scholarship Agreement Signing E. Dombrowski
Ed signed the agreement. Signed copies will be with the treasurer’s records.
- b. Reorganization Plan Update L. Werner
Linda gave an update on people who have already volunteered for committees. If you want to volunteer, send it to Ed.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Membership meeting agenda

Introduction of Madisen Potratz

Reorganization plan – It was decided we will accept absentee votes.

Photos of the most exciting thing they grew this summer to share or “best thing I grew this summer”.

Consent agenda items.

Old Business – Scholarship Agreement

7. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn by Jean Reed, seconded by Sue Egner. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Next Business/Membership meeting: September 13, 2022 Coughlin Center

Next Board Meeting:

Reminder: Masks are still in effect