

Master Gardener Board Meeting November 1, 2011

Present: Mary Wiedenmeier, Kathy Daniels, Jane Kuhn, Bob Potter, Ken Hawk, Sue Bohn, Marge Menacher, Linda Baeten, Carole Dorsch.

Excused: Roy Anne Moulton, Audrey Ruedinger, Ivan Placko, and Alice Graf.

Also present were Bill Wallingford, Sue Egnor, Ron Hansche, and Ken Friedman

The meeting was called to order at 6:03

Ron Hansche, of NeighborWorks Project, spoke to the group:

- NeighborWorks is 10 months old and is involved in the strategic rebuilding of neighborhoods.
- Their focus is everything east of Main St. from the river to Packer Ave. in Oshkosh. There are specific targeted neighborhoods within this space such as the Miller's Bay and Steven's Park areas, typically older neighborhoods.
- Goals include strengthening neighborhoods, positive community change.
- Looking to replant the triangle on Mill, Bowen, & Waugoo Sts. Ron provided a photo. They are offering the landscape design piece to Master Gardeners. This planning is to take place in January, February and March with planting in the spring by volunteers of NeighborWorks. Plant material can only be 36 inches high and perennials are preferred. The triangle is 30 feet long.
- They have funding and are still looking for more. City to do maintenance. One shot deal. **The Board agreed to present this project to the membership via email, newsletter and put it on the agenda for the next Business meeting.**
- Marge Menacher mentioned there is a prairie garden that needs help at Washington School. This would be a good project for NeighborWorks. Ron will bring it to his group.
- **Linda will put an article in the Newsletter for the NeighborWorks project.** Handouts were collected to present at the business meeting.

Ken Friedman spoke to the group regarding recognition of the Leatherman's for their contribution to the Oshkosh Farmer's Market: Suggestions were made around the table. **It was moved and seconded Kathy/Bob to give two \$50 chamber gift certificates to the Leathermans, one for Dennis and one for Karlene. Motion passed unanimously. Ken Friedman will purchase them and provide a receipt. He will also get a card and see that they receive the gift.** After some discussion, Ken also agreed to possibly be a co-president for the Master Gardeners if another candidate could be found.

Treasurer's Report: Alice is not here today, but provided a handout. She will be at the Business Meeting to answer any questions.

- Bill Wallingford brought up the expensive materials for the basic training class and asked if there is a way cut down this expense. It was noted that the material will be changing for the next session. No class will be offered next fall, but they will start up the following spring. Wait and see.
- Bill also asked whether the profit made on the Chicago Flower Show trip is intentional. Board Members explained that a profit is not intended, but planning can be difficult as there is no guarantee how many will sign up.

Secretary's Report: No changes were made to the Board Minutes from October. Linda has emailed them to Jean Reed and Board Members.

Old Business

- Cobra order – Jane Kuhn: **Alice will take orders at the Business Meeting. Kathy will put it on the agenda.**
- Website - Linda has emailed Jean Reed regarding updating forms on the website.

New Business

- **Elections to take place at next week's Business Meeting.**
- **Golden Trowel Award – Linda Baeten will be in touch with Linda Werner and Stan Meyer to decide on this year's recipient.** A few names have been received.
- Project applications –
 - Jane reported 14 out of 20 projects have been received and she is waiting for 6 more.
 - We need a project application from Diane Lott for her Theda Clark project.
 - Questions: Do MGs who follow up on Nick's suggestions need to do an application if no money is involved and it has Nick's approval? Should these projects be tracked? Discussion followed. The Board feels these should be treated as individual projects with an application and a report. **Jane to do article for the Newsletter as a reminder to members to finish this paperwork.**
- **Kathy and Mary are working with Julie Grundy on Membership book. Linda will provide the Golden Trowel recipient's name.**
- Education Committee- Members of the Education Committee reported the February event is moving along. Looking for vendors. Will provide baggie of wormiculite with the program. MGs welcome to be vendors and should contact Bob Kosanke. A field trip to UWO Reeve Union is scheduled for further planning.
- Awards Banquet – Mary reported that the treasury picks up part of the tab as a thank you to members. She asked if we should continue to rent the AV equipment and do a presentation as we have in the past. The Board was in favor of renting the equipment. **Mary will provide the presentation.**

Any New Business:

State Rep Report – Sue Bohn attended a Face to Face meeting:

- A New president has been elected to WIMGA
- Long range planning and public awareness were discussed
- New training format/materials are planned. See the next WIMGA newsletter for more info. The new training format will not be for people who just want to learn about gardening, but is geared toward giving back.
- Not all counties are technology oriented. We are impressive to the others. Sue shared info with others. They were especially interested in the Pilot Training program.
- Upcoming conferences are to be held in Ashland and Outagamie Counties. Sue will forward information to the president(s). The Midwest Regional Conference will be in July in Minnesota. In place of an International Conference, an Alaskan Cruise is planned.
- Grant recipients will be announced November 15th with preference to those that have applied for the first time.
- Sue obtained an idea from Jefferson Co...moveable signage for MG projects.

- Sue is working on the Annual Report. Parkview Projects among others have been highlighted. **Sue will send Mary a copy.**
- Linda Baeten called Linda Tobey regarding the Board's decision on her Emeritus status. Linda Tobey also agreed to continue to produce the Newsletter. **Linda Baeten will provide an article for the Newsletter.**
- Bill Wallingford would like to promote Neenah membership. The Annual report would be helpful.
- The Hours report has been sent to the State. Issues regarding hours and dues are being followed up by Alice, Mary and Nick.

Next Board meeting...No meeting in December, but will hold a Planning Meeting, January 3. A Project Lead meeting will be held in February, Ivan and Jane to coordinate.

Meeting Adjourned 7:45

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Baeten