

Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Volunteer Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 13, 2019
Eau Claire County Extension Office

In attendance: Dick Lienhardt, Mary Jane Griffin, Ellen Terwilliger, Rita Gundry, Paula Bonnin, Ede Strand, Nancy Spak, Chris Southworth, Carla Pelzl, and Eau Claire County Horticulture Program Coordinator Margaret Murphy

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by President Mary Jane Griffin.

Plant Sale: Mary Jane Griffin reported that the plant sale was a success, with \$3,150 dollars taken in. The sale committee will be meeting one more time to put together a final summary of the sale. Beaver Creek Reserve also had a successful plant sale with nearly all their supply of native plants sold.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the May meeting were approved as written. (Motion to approve – Ellen Terwilliger; seconded by Paula Bonnin) The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: – Ede Strand

Ede reported a book balance of \$13,287.83 as of 5/09/2019. Plant sale receipts came to \$3,157.80. Dick Lienhardt made a motion to accept the report as presented; Seconded by Nancy Spak. The motion passed.

Horticulture Program Coordinator's Report – Margaret Murphy

The board expressed a need to have a Level I Training for people wishing to become a Master Gardener Volunteer. Margaret will plan for a training class in early spring of 2020. It was suggested that the active MGV projects should be introduced to the trainees by the project leaders. There was also a suggestion to provide active MGV mentors for the new trainees. Yet another suggestion was to have signs made to identify MGV projects, like the Kids' Garden. Margaret will follow up on that suggestion.

It was mentioned that we need someone in the office to respond to horticulture questions. Margaret would like a listing of the questions we get and how they are handled. She also would appreciate knowing what areas of expertise our volunteers have.

Education Program Committee report – Nina Logan and Lori Kempen

The 2019 ECAMGVA Calendar

- June 9th Plant Sale Completed
- July 15th Meet and Greet Potluck with Margaret Murphy, Horticulture Program Coordinator
- July (date to be announced) Tour of Square Roots CSA Farm on Mallard Road, South of Eau Claire
- August 19th Tour of Pollinator Gardens at Chippewa Fair Grounds and Wissota State Park with MGV Sue Crisp
- September 30th Volunteer Hours and dues turned in
- October 7th Deadline for MG Photo Contest entries
- October 21st The ABC's of Mason Bees – Rita Gundry
- November 18th Gardening with Incarcerated Populations – Bill Manning
- December 16th Annual Holiday Potluck Party

It was asked how the volunteer hours we enter online (at some future date) will be checked for compliance with the criteria that must be met for volunteer hours to be counted. Margaret said she will be checking some of that and will try to clarify the criteria to be met for our volunteer hours.

Teaching Garden maintenance: A good group of hard-working volunteers met to plant the raised beds in the teaching garden. Soil amendments were added, seeds and transplants went in, straw mulch was put down, and the garden was given a good watering. A thank you to all who were able to help. However, we have not had enough volunteers to help water and maintain the garden through the season. Ellen Terwilliger suggested asking for volunteers willing to sign up to care for the garden for one week rather than asking for several volunteers to share the responsibility through the growing season. Carla Pelzl was asked to solicit and coordinate volunteers. Andy Heren posted a Doodle calendar so volunteers could sign up online for the week of their choice. About half the weeks are covered. The week of July 14 – 20 remains open, and all four weeks of August are still open. Volunteer requests have been sent out twice via emails from the office, and the recent newsletter included the same request. There is a need for additional volunteers.

Volunteer Project List – The board will review our list of approved projects at the July meeting. Margaret will be given the list of projects so she can see what is currently being done by volunteers.

The next meeting will be Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 1:00 PM at the County Extension office.

Paula Bonnin made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Rita Gundry. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary Carla Pelzl