

Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Volunteers Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 12, 2017
Extension Office
6:30 PM

In attendance: Lori Kempen, Ede Strand, Dick Lienhardt, Mary Jane Griffin, Carla Pelzl, Erin LaFaive

Call to order: President Mary Jane Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Secretary's Report: Carla Pelzl

The minutes of the September meeting were approved as corrected (Winter Seminar Date is February 3rd). Motion to accept: Dick Lienhardt; Seconded by Lori Kempen

Horticulture Educator's Report: Erin LaFaive

- Erin reported that 38 members turned in hours. Three people asked for exemptions. The Eau Claire MGVA Association members turned in a total of about 3000 service hours. There are several members who will still be submitting their hours.
- There have been a number of changes in the extension system organization. It is now under the UW-Madison. Erin's position is back to 100 percent; Andy Heren will be at 80 percent. The person handling fiscal matters will now also be the office administrator, so one position was lost.
- Erin wants to do a Level I training either this fall or early next spring. Jerry Clark will hold a training session next year. He and Erin will alternate years.
- Horticulture questions are still coming in to the office. Some have been quite complicated. The Emerald Ash Borer has now spread to Chippewa County.
- Erin has been working on fall cleanup of the youth gardens and the Teaching Garden. There has been some volunteer help with the cleanup.
- The 4H program will have a 4H Coordinator, not an Agent as before the reorganization. The 4H has been doing some hiring in those counties that have a 4H program.

Treasurer's Report: Ede Strand

The book balance at the beginning of the year was \$12,772.32. The balance as of our meeting stands at \$10,883.54. Thirty members have paid their dues, and several more members have turned their dues in at the Extension Office. Lori moved that the report be accepted; seconded by Dick Lienhardt.

Education Committee Report: Lori Kempen

- The September potluck was well attended and enjoyed by all. After the meal members shared their gardening experiences, the highs and the lows, of the past growing season.
- October meeting topic will be Houseplant Care with Kelly Bobeck from Down to Earth Garden Center.
- November – Ellen Terwilliger will share her photos and information about the growing of cacao and the chocolate industry in Costa Rica.
- December – our annual Holiday Party on December 18.

Old Business:

- The Eau Claire Garden Club will not have a plant sale next year. If the MGVA decides to go ahead with a sale next summer, a new Plant Sale Chairperson will have to be found. Further

discussion of a plant sale was tabled until the November board meeting.

- One of our members had suggested that we find ways to keep MGV's updated regarding our association's activities and upcoming events, perhaps by having a board member give a summary at our monthly education meetings and including more information in the newsletter. Erin will respond to the member's letter. Carla will put information in the newsletter and will include links to online resources, such as the Board Meeting Minutes and the Newsletter Archives.
- The organizational meeting for the Winter Garden Seminar will be October 26th or 27th.

There was no New Business. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM. The next meeting will be **Thursday November 9th at 6:30 PM** at the Extension Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Pelzl, Secretary