

**Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Volunteer Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 11, 2018
County Extension Office**

In attendance: Mary Jane Griffin, Ede Strand, Paula Bonnin, Nina Logan, Ellen Terwilliger, Dick Lienhardt, Carla Pelzl

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 1:10 P.M. by President Mary Jane Griffin.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of September 13, 2018 were reviewed and approved as written. (Motion to approve – Ellen Terwilliger; Second – Paula Bonnin)

Treasurer's Report: Ede Strand

The book balance stands at \$9,810.20 as of October 11, 2018. The treasurer's report was approved. (Motion – Paula Bonnin; Second - Dick Lienhardt)

Upcoming Educational meetings: Nina Logan reported that the educational program for Monday, October 15th would be presented by a panel of volunteers who helped with the Ask-a-Master-Gardener booth at the weekend Downtown Farmer's Market and the Eau Claire County Junior Fair. They will discuss some of the most frequently asked questions and the resources that were most helpful in answering those questions. The November Educational meeting will be a presentation by a representative of Just Local Foods.

WIMGA State Conference report: Ellen Terwilliger

Ellen reported that the publicity to promote the conference had gone well was effective. Attendees gave very positive feedback and the speakers were well received. The profit from the conference was split 50/50 between WIMGA and the host organizations. WIMGA's share was \$4,640.45. The same amount went to the hosting organizations and was split equally among them (Chippewa, Dunn, Eau Claire, and St. Croix/Pierce). The ECAMGA's share will be around \$900. Total attendance was 226. A total of 2,572 volunteer hours were contributed by the hosting organizations, including the planning committee, and those who took care of advertising, organizing volunteers, and helping on the day of the conference.

WIMGA Grant: Brent Heath of Brent and Becky's Bulbs will visit Eau Claire in March to give a presentation at L.E. Phillips Public Library. The total cost is \$750 for two seminars with workshops plus \$600 airfare. A WIMGA grant will provide \$400 with the remainder of the cost to be split among the Eau Claire Garden Club, the EC Master Gardener Association, the Eau Claire Library, and several other groups. Our share will be \$100.

Old Business:

Winter Garden Seminar, February 2019: Nina Logan reported that the seminar committee is working on speakers, and was making good progress.

The Teaching Garden: Carla Pelzl and Mary Jane Griffin

The garden was put to rest for the season with two clean-up sessions in October. The raised beds are all ready to be prepared next spring. Mike Maddox plans to visit Eau Claire to see the garden and talk about how we use it as an educational tool. Mary Jane thanked Carla, Sally Anderson, and Mikel Riese for maintaining the garden during the summer and helping with the clean-up sessions.

Teaching Garden (cont. from page 1)

The garden had been planted later last season. With Erin no longer leading the project, it took the volunteers extra time to review the supply of garden seeds on hand and make decisions about what to include in the raised beds. There was not time to plan teaching activities with school and community groups. Suggestions for groups we might work with next season include: the Altoona High School FFA, members of the Muslim mosque, and Boys' and Girls' clubs. One suggestion was to use some of the Monday evening Education meetings to work with community groups at the garden. Planning the garden and teaching opportunities should be done well ahead next year – beginning in February and March. We will need to find volunteers to help with watering and other garden maintenance throughout next summer.

New Business:

Level One Training: Jerry Clark will conduct a Level One Master Gardener Training in Chippewa Falls beginning September 18, 2018. Those interested should contact Jerry.

Board Elections: It is time to recruit candidates for the four open board positions for 2019. Several board members volunteered to contact potential recruits. The candidates' bios and pictures will be in the November newsletter. Ballots will be mailed to all our members in early November. New board members will be introduced at the November Education meeting and also at the Holiday Party.

Eau Claire Garden Club Speaker: The EC Garden Club has invited Steve Betchkal to speak. They asked whether the ECAMGA would be willing to share the \$100.00 speaker fee. The board approved providing \$50 toward the speaker fee.

Adjournment: Nina Logan moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ede seconded the motion, which passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:40 P.M.

The next meeting is Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 1:00 P.M. at the Extension Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Pelzl, Secretary