

**Eau Claire Area Master Gardener Volunteer Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, May 9, 2019  
Eau Claire County Extension Office**

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by President Mary Jane Griffin at 1:05 PM.

**In attendance:** Rita Gundry, Nancy Spak, Chris Southworth, Dick Lienhardt, Ellen Terwilliger, Mary Jane Griffin, Ede Strand, Carla Pelzl

**Plant Sale:** Co-Chair Mary Jane Griffin reported that plans for the sale were going well. A final planning meeting is scheduled for May 28, 2019 at 3:00 PM at Down to Earth Garden Center. MG's should bring their sale donations to the Phoenix Park Pavilion by around 7:00 AM on the morning of the sale, Sunday, June ninth. Dick will be bringing 20 baskets of hanging petunias and a few baskets of impatiens. An email reminder with details will be sent to MG members.

**New Horticulture Program Coordinator:** Margaret Murphy has accepted the new position of Horticulture Program Coordinator for Chippewa, Dunn, Polk, and Eau Claire counties. Her home base will be Chippewa Falls.

**Secretary's Report:** The minutes of the March 2019 board meeting were reviewed and approved (the April meeting was canceled due to inclement weather). Motion to approve the minutes as written – Ellen Terwilliger; Seconded – Nancy Spak.

**Education Program Committee Report:** The list of upcoming programs and events from Committee Co-chairs Nina Logan and Lori Kempen was reviewed and approved.

- a. May 11, 2019 – Native Plant Sale – Beaver Creek Reserve
- b. May 20, 2019 – Container Gardening presentation – by staff of Chippewa Valley Growers  
This will serve as our May Education Program. The public is welcome.
- c. June 9, 2019 – Plant Sale – Phoenix Park Pavilion
- d. July 2019 – Tour of Square Roots CSA Farm – Mallard Rd, South of Eau Claire
- e. August 19, 2019 – Tour of Pollinator Gardens at Chippewa Fair Grounds and Wisconsin State Park with MGV Sue Crisp
- f. September 16, 2019 – Annual Harvest Potluck
- g. September 30, 2019 – Volunteer hours due

**WIMGA Representative's Report:** Ellen Terwilliger – Ellen had designed a survey that was sent to our members to determine what volunteer projects and activities MG's had been involved with and what they planned to work on in 2019. Twenty-six MG's responded. The survey asked respondents to indicate which of a list of MG projects they volunteered for in 2018 and planned to volunteer for in 2019. The two projects that had the most members involved were the Ask a Master Gardener Booth and the annual Plant Sale. MG's were also asked to add other projects they volunteered for in addition to those listed in the survey. There were nineteen responses. Thirteen MG's responded to the question "What activities would you be willing to organize or help organize in 2019?"

Ellen's summary of the WIMGA spring meeting held in Hancock on 4/27 included the following:

- **WIMGA Treasurer's Report:** WIMGA Treasurer Byron Hacker provided a verbal treasurer's report. Questions regarding WIMGA finances are available either through attending the annual fall meeting or sending the treasurer questions through the following website: <https://www.wimga.org/wimga-dues>
- **Online hours reporting:** Mike Maddox indicated we are very close to being able to enter volunteer hours online. For now, keep records on paper and they can be entered online when the system is ready.
- **Statewide WIMGA Conference:** No county MG association offered to hold the 2019 conference. An MG skills development session will be offered this fall at three locations: Thursday, September 12 in Wausau, Saturday, September 14 in Madison, and Friday, September 20 in Eau Claire. The topic is Presentation Skills and Using Social Media. Attendance at the session will count toward Continuing Education hours.
- **Jumping Worms Update:** The Wisconsin DNR assisted in developing a protocol for MG plant sales. The DNR does not recommend plant sales. However, if associations have a sale, there are elaborate protocols to follow to avoid spreading jumping worms to others' gardens. Details will be shared with the plant sale committee.

Ellen suggested any MG's wishing for more information regarding the WIMGA Treasurer's Report should contact Byron Hacker.

#### **Treasurer's Report – Ede Strand**

The May 9, 2019 report included expenses and income from the Winter Garden Seminar. \$175.25 was spent to cover the cost of printing speakers' handouts. It was suggested that in the future our association should place a limit on how many pages will be printed for speakers – maybe two pages. Larger presentation papers could be posted on our website and people could read them there or print them on their own.

The reported book balance was \$10,391.15. Nancy Spak moved approval of the report; Dick Lienhardt seconded.

**2019 Budget Worksheet:** Ede's worksheet included the budgets from 2015 – 2018 to help plan the budget for the current year. The 2019 budget was discussed and line item amounts were determined. Budget work for 2019 was completed.

#### **New Business:**

- A Welcome for Margaret Murphy: Margaret will be invited to attend our June 13, 2019 board meeting. We will meet at 12:30 PM and enjoy a pizza lunch, followed by the business meeting. Mary Jane will invite Margaret, and Rita Gundry will take care of ordering pizza.
- Carla Pelzl accepted the position of Project Leader for the Teaching Garden. May 28<sup>th</sup> is the date for planting the garden, from 9AM – Noon. Dick has plants to donate. Ellen and Nancy offered to pick up container planting mix and/or mulch as needed. It was suggested that we plan and host a couple of summer teaching events at the garden. Possibilities are offering grilled items along with educational information, or hosting an open house with salsa and snacks using vegetables from the Garden. Ellen offered to design a flyer to distribute to neighborhood homes.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM. **Next board meeting:** Thursday, June 13, 2019 at **12:30 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Pelzl, Secretary