

Master Gardeners Board Meeting 10-6-2009

Present were: Mary Wiedenmeier, Kathy Daniels, Alice Graf, Stan Meyer, Bob Potter, Ken Hawk, Roy Anne Moulton, Linda Baeten, Nick Schneider, Audrey Ruedinger.

Education Committee Report: Roy Anne

Roy Anne reported things are moving along regarding the February Garden Event featuring guest speaker Melinda Myers.

- There is a plan to e-mail the membership for a "Name the Event" contest. The winner will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate.
- Ken Friedman looked over the contract for Melinda Myers, Alice now is holding the contract and a deposit of \$1,000 goes to Myers.
- Roy Anne has the contract for LaSure's Catering in hand and will need to look it over.
- Information is being gathered for promotional brochures – hope to have these printed and sent out before Christmas. Discussion on possible printers.
- Looking for guidance from the board regarding the need for a cancelation policy.
- All of the costs have not been determined at this point, so a fee for the conference is not set.
- Looking for sponsors.
- A \$400 grant has been applied for from the State.
- Sub Committees have been created, and a sign-up sheet is to be passed around at the next Business meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Alice handed out a summary for the month of September. The checkbook total as of September 30 is \$13,669.48. With \$100 cash on hand and \$5,072.34 in a CD, the total of all accounts is \$18,841.82.

Secretary's Report:

The Board minutes from September were taken by Alice Graf in Linda Baeten's absence and have been posted on the website. The September Business Meeting minutes, also recorded by Alice Graf, were posted in the October Newsletter.

Old Business

State Convention: Mary reported the convention was OK, but not all that satisfied with the breakout sessions. Neil Diboll's session on Prairie gardens was good. Jim Nienhuis was the noon speaker and very entertaining. He spoke on the Art of Vegetables. It was estimated that approximately 300 people attended. The Ho Chunk facility is smoky due to cigarettes. Next year Sheboygan County will host the State Convention.

New Business

November Elections – The offices of President and Treasurer (two year term plus 1 year post term) are up for election, and a Member At Large (3 year term). Several people were mentioned as persons of interest. Board vacancies will be brought up at the October Business meeting and there will be a call for nominations. We vote at the November Business meeting. The Secretary will have ballots printed for the meeting.

Hours and Time Keeper – Dawn Kent has agreed to be our new Hours and Time Keeper. She will wait until after the November Elections to assume these duties. She will help pass out awards at the Banquet. Hours discs need to be ordered for the banquet. Linda Werner ordered them last year from ANT Industries in Neenah.

Advanced class payment: Ivan Placko has acted as “Host” for the Advanced Classes and has asked that the \$10.00 fee be waived due to the time he spends volunteering. He would also like to be able to count the class as education hours. Moved and seconded Moulton/Potter. Motion carried 7 to 0.

Fall Classes: Nick reported the classes are going well with 19 participants. Some people are already willing to do projects including buckthorn eradication and help with the MG Website.

Ken learned while visiting in Indiana, that MG’s there charge \$200 for the class with a \$50.00 refund if volunteer hour commitments are met. This may be something to think about for next year as incentive for members to get their hours in. Board discussion followed.

Awards Dinner: The Awards Banquet will be on Tuesday, December 1st at the Ridgewood with social hour at 6:00 and dinner at 7:00. Last year 76 people attended. Mary asked for feedback regarding the number of door prizes to be given out. The consensus was 20 prizes were enough.

A December 8th Board meeting / planning meeting will be held, place to be announced. Nick and Roy Anne will lead the group in a discussion for future goals. No Business Meeting in December.

Other Business:

- Dorothy passed along a suggestion to have pens printed up with our name and logo to give out at the Farmer’s Market next year.
- A discussion regarding the MG Website took place. Mary will call Jean Reed and invite her to a Board Meeting.
- Plan to look over the membership surveys at the next Board Meeting.
- Discussion took place regarding members who can’t get their hours in, and whether they can carry over to next year. Members who fail to get all of the required volunteer hours can still pay dues and be active, but they will not be Certified nor be able to vote. It was suggested to call these people to encourage them to continue. A person can stay a member for 5 years without Certification.
- Roy Anne and Audrey will be presenting a pruning workshop at the Green Lake Baptist Assembly at an all-day event on October 15th.

Meeting adjourned...8:05pm

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Baeten