

Union County Master Gardener Association  
Monthly Business Meeting  
March 22, 2017, 7:00PM – Buckeye Room

**Attending:** Vera Cyre, Audrey Kise, Dilu Juvarkar, Dixie Bowen, John Walkup, Kay Covert, Bea Metz, Beth Johnson, Donna Gehring, Lisa Kovinchick, Harry Kirtley, Penny Rushmore, Julie Jones, Kay Nichols, Jon Weiss, Karen Long, Patty Sweeney, Deb Jeffers, Kay Nichols, Eunice Hornsby, Al Burnard, Chris Burnard, Joan Griffin, Donna Maley, Bill Paloney, Bobbi Brown

**Call to Order:** Lisa Kovinchick

## March Educational Program – 7:00 PM

Hank Edwards, Caring for your Gardening Tools

Hank provided an overview of caring for gardening tools and sharpened tools for those attending.

## Monthly Business Meeting – 8:00 PM

**Secretary's Report:** Donna Gehring, no changes to February report

**Treasurer's Report:** Mary Salimbene-Merriman, February report is in VMS

**Coordinator's Report:** Laurie Lowe – Karen Long reported updates from the Coordinator's call.

- Nomination for State Awards due May 1, earlier than last year. Need suggestions, MGVS of the year, Project of the year, Friend of MGVS. Suggestions should be sent to Karen
- The Ohio State MGVS conference will be held on September 29 and 30. The location has not been announced.
- Specialization gardens, Union County has three attending.
- Training to learn how to detect and report invasive plants will be held soon. Contact Karen Long if interested.
- Ohio State MGVS website is still not fully operational.
- Reminder to include in your phone contacts, "In Case of Emergency (ICE)."

### Old Business:

- Recognition Banquet – Donna Gehring
  - Planning is well underway with catering ordered, room reserved, and invitations sent.
- Fall Training Class – Laurie Lowe
  - Scheduled to begin September 13, 2017. Donna G. and Dixie will help contact potential candidates.
- Still looking for volunteer(s) to fill Karen Long's position as Coordinator.

### New Business:

- Booth at the Farmer's Market - Market May 13th – October 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Looking to do a few weekends in the summer, perhaps two or three. They would assign booth space.
  - Planning to offer a workshop based program, like pollinator program. Contact Lisa or Laurie if you have any suggestions for a program or to volunteer for the booth. We have material for the pollinator workshop and milkweed seeds, etc. Al will check to see if more materials are available.
  - Send other ideas to Lisa or Laurie that would showcase our mission of education.
  - Plan to have a flier available for the next training class.
- State Awards
  - Application due in May
  - Looking for suggestions/nominations
- Seed Packets for WIC and Food Pantry, you can bring them next meeting – Melissa

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- Day at the Park requested that MGV program be given, perhaps the pollinators program.

**Project Reports:**

- Adopt a Pot will not be an active project in 2017 – Donna Maley. City of Marysville would still like merchants to have flowerpots so they will move the project to Team Marysville. Donald Burger called Karen to determine how many man-hours it took to plant the pots.
- August Plant Sale – Karen Long. Planned for August 12, sign up in VMS for August 11 setup date or the August 12<sup>th</sup> for the workday. Contact Karen if you have any ideas to improve or change the plant sale. Get plants potted as soon as weather permits. Flier will be posted on Facebook page.
- Covered Bridge Festival – Bea Metz/Kay Nichols. We won't do the physical labor, such as corn shocks and mulching, will have a booth there and educational workshops. Will develop a theme. May not have the demo tent again. Put up our other tent and have an open workshop, for example: growing succulents, bee pollinators, seasonal decorating, winter sewing, etc. Dates are September 16 and 17.
- Cultivating Community Gardens – Chris Burnard. Continue to meet with leaders, waiting for weather to clear to get into the gardens. MGV will be serving educators and advisors. Still working on the schedule, etc. Please sign up in VMS to volunteer. Schedules will vary.
- Home Grown 101 – Al Burnard. Two series of classes completed, feedback has been very good. Looking for more hands to work with the residents. May 2 and 9 are the next two sessions. Would like to continue to work with them through the season. About 1.5 hours at each location. Covering expanded version of the training that is used at Project GROW, why do we grow vegetables and basic planning. Next session to cover how to plan, variation of gardens, pest control, fertilizers, etc.
- Marketing Committee – Kay Covert
- McCloud Park – Dixie Bowen/Julie Jones. Second Saturday, 9 – 11 am, April 8<sup>th</sup>. Dixie will send emails. Received an inquiry for a student project; class will raise marigolds and plant at the park. Julie and Dixie will go to the school and teach the students how to plant. Karen and Dixie are meeting with Commissions tomorrow to let them know that we plan to ask for funding. \$150 donation received from an outside donor.
- Project GROW – Julie Jones and Donna Gehring
  - Work schedule is close to being complete. Please sign up in VMS to volunteer; it would be great to have a few more volunteers.
- Scholarship Committee – Audrey Kise. Deadline is April 4<sup>th</sup>. Application is online, on Facebook and was in the local paper.
- Speaker's Bureau – Eunice Hornsby. No requested t date.
  - Need a new co-chair for Eunice (to work with WQTT)
- Armory contacted Lisa and asked for help from MGV to identify the plants. The contact information is: Let Lisa know if you are interested in helping.

**April Educational Program:**

Jon Weiss, Building a window box

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Gehring  
Secretary