

Volunteer Master Gardeners of Union County

May 27, 2020

Zoom Meeting

Attendance: Laurie Lowe, Sara Parker, Penny Rushmore, Chris Burnard, Beth Johnson, Natalie Landon, Dilu Juvarkar, Donna Gehring, Audrey Kise, Karen Long, Joan Griffin, Bryan Bumgardner, Bill Paloney, Tyler Arvin, Alesia Miller, Sue Timmons, Julie Jones, Kay Nichols, Rebeca Honaker, Nancy Munson, Karen Moots, Donna Maley, Virginia McCreary, Dixie Baldwin, Eunice Hornsby, Scheral Greider, Mary Salimbene- Merrimen, John Walkup, Robert Anderton, Jon Weiss, Terri Farley, Kay Covert

No Presentation: Our first Zoom meeting and it is so nice to see everyone since COVID has kept us homebound. Unable to meet face to face until after July 6th and more information to come on reopening plan. Stay tuned. Until then, will meet by Zoom since we are having a great turnout. Thank you, Eunice, for all your work on this and helping us connect!

Business Meeting:

- Secretaries Report by Beth Johnson – reported minutes from February meeting were placed on VMS. Minutes were collected by Nancy Munson since Beth was out of town. No questions concern or corrections reported Approved
- Treasurer Report by Donna Maley reports little activity to report state fees paid. Reimbursement for seeds and for training. Report posted on VMS. No questions corrections were made.

Coordinators Report:

- Restrictions remain in place until July 6th per OSU. Not allowed to volunteer with others. Can count hours in own garden, preparations for plant sale and for vegetable collected for donation.
- Discussion held about applying for exemption to work in community gardens idea is to work at Dutch Mill, COYC or at vegetable garden at the Ag Center. Social distancing would have to be maintained among workers per OSU guidelines. Working at 15 feet apart with masks on all the time. COYC would not be working with KIDS as they are on lockdown as is West Central and Ohio Reformatory for Women. No work can be done until exemption is granted. Exemptions take about one week for approval.
- Volunteer hours will be tough to get but education hours are available web-based learning through Hort. hour and other offerings. Discussion on how OSU will handle volunteer hours more information to come.
- You can sign up to volunteer to spot the Spotted Lantern Fly who uses the Tree of Heaven as its Host tree. An e mail was sent by the coordinators earlier this month on how to proceed.

Old Business: none

Project Reports: Most projects are on hold due to COVIS and late season to start. The 2019 Garden tour has been postponed to next year.

Ask a Master Gardener – Dilu reports there have been several calls.

Plant sale - set up Aug 7 Sale Aug 8th please plan to donate if we cannot do then we will do a swap or donation. Pot and caring for these plants will count as volunteer time.

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Recognition Banquet – cancelled still want to get our interns, now master gardeners their badges. Executive committee is working on this.

Scholarship – extended deadline to May. no applications for 2020.

Meeting time was hearing what each of our master gardeners were doing with their down time and in their gardens. One has added a new member to her family – congratulations! One receives a mushroom log as a gift- good luck! Another has consulted expert advice in picking out a tree for their yard while many others reported weeding and mowing and growing their own plants at home vegetables, dahlias, perennials and much more. So nice to see or hear from everyone.

Meeting adjourned. Please review attendance for accuracy I may have missed someone or jotted them down incorrectly.

Respectfully submitted: Beth Johnson