

Union County Master Gardener Association
Business Meeting Notes
October 28, 2015

Attendees

Suzie Arnold, Dixie Bowen, Bobbi Brown, Al Burnard, Chris Burnard, Barbi Conaway, Kay Covert, Scheral Greider, Joan Griffin, Melissa Henry, Eunice Hornsby, Pat Houser, Deb Jeffers, Julie Jones, Harry Kirtley, Audrey Kise, Lisa Kovinchick, Laurie Lowe, Karen Long, Carolyn Madziar, Donna Maley, George McVey, Kay Nichols, Bill Paloney, Bill Ronschke, Penny Rushmore, Mary Salimbene Merriman, Patty Sweeney, John Walkup and Jon Weiss

Call to Order: Al called the meeting to order.

October Educational Program

Scott Zanon gave a presentation on native trees, based on his book, "Desirable Trees for the Midwest."

Business Meeting

Secretary's Report: there were no updates to last month's meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Carolyn posted the Treasurer's Report to VMS. Most of last month's expenses came from the Training Class currently underway.

Coordinator's Report: no updates to report at this time.

Old Business

- **Project Handbooks –** Committee Chairs: please complete the project handbooks and email them to Al for installation to VMS. Include notes and digital photos of project progress throughout the year.

New Business

- Al recapped his and Chris' trip to the 2015 International MG Conference in Iowa, to accept the Search for Excellence Award for Project GROW. There were more than 700 attendees and more than 100 award nominations from across the country. The caliber of projects was excellent. Al gave the award to Laurie for display in the Extension office, and he provided a framed copy to COYC for display at their facility.
- **Officer Elections in October**
 - Al read off the candidate slate: Al Burnard for President, Dixie Bowen for Vice President, Mary Salimbene Merriman for Treasurer and Donna Gehring for Secretary. He also asked for any other nominations.
 - The group proceeded to vote and voted unanimously to elect the slate as presented.
 - Al thanked Eunice for her efforts to assemble the nominees.
 - **Effective January 1, 2016, Mary Salimbene Merriman, by her election as Treasurer of the Union County Master Gardener Association, is hereby authorized as a signatory for the checking account named Master Gardeners of Union Co. at The Richwood Banking Company. Signatory authorization remains in effect until the end of her elected term or resignation/removal from said office.**
 - **Effective January 1, 2016, Al Burnard, by his election as President of the Union County Master Gardener Association, is hereby authorized as a signatory for the checking account**

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- named Master Gardeners of Union Co. at The Richwood Banking Company. Signatory authorization remains in effect until the end of his elected term or resignation/removal from said office.
- **Upcoming events**
 - **November Meeting Social and Photo Contest**
 - Everyone voted on the beautiful photos submitted for the November Photo Contest
 - The November Meeting Social will be held at 7:00 pm, Weds., Nov. 18, at the Extension Office (where the Monthly Business Meeting is held).
 - Officers will provide the main dish.
 - MGVs: please bring a side dish or a dessert to share; watch for an email with more details
 - During the event we will announce the photo contest winners, enjoy each other's company and the delicious food
 - **2016 Budget Process** – Committee Chairs: please send Carolyn the income and expense amounts for each of your projects before Monday, Nov. 2. Even if it stays the same, let Carolyn know.
 - **Annual audit** of our financial records will take place in January after all 2015 activity closes. Sheila Sands has agreed to conduct the audit.
 - **MGVs: Please submit any outstanding expenses for reimbursement to Carolyn by Nov. 15 (prior to the next meeting).**
 - **Project Chairs:** notify Al if you do not plan to continue as chair of your project next year.

Project Reports

- **August Plant Sale** – Audrey Kise: we received the contract for renting the Armory Bldg. and plan to sign and return it. MGVs: we are in need of a new chairperson for this committee. Audrey offered to help in any way.
- **Covered Bridge Festival** – Bea Metz and Kay Nichols: the event was a great success.
- **Dutch Mill Event** – Sheral Greider: we answered questions and handed out MG materials during the event, and alerted people to the Ask-an-MG service. This event is worth pursuing again.
- **Love & Learn** – Chris Burnard: harvesting has wrapped up for the year. We need to replace materials for five of the beds and will build them early next year. MGVs: we need volunteers for the project. Sign up in VMS. They recently donated 50 lbs. of sweet potatoes to the Food Pantry, in addition to the donations made earlier in the season.
- **Magnetic Springs Beautification:** Karen Long and Jon Weiss: nothing new to report.
- **McCloud Park** – Dixie Bowen and Julie Jones: MGVs: the last work session for the year will be held Nov. 14. We plan to cut everything back. If you have the opportunity, clean up your bed before then. Berbee offered to donate bulbs. Julie has been working with senior facilities to implement a project. MGVs: contact Julie or Dixie if you can participate in creating a craft project at Heartland on Thurs., Nov. 19.
- **Monthly Meeting Educational Program** – Dixie Bowen: in January, Chris Ahlum of Ahlum & Arbor will speak. In February, Laura Pakis will present on the topic of dogs in the garden. In March, Keith Scheiderer will speak on new annuals. On March 19 we are planning a program for the public. Denise Elsworth will speak about pollinators and there will be another speaker, a hands-on project and refreshments. Dixie plans to reserve a room. MGVs: we need a leader and volunteers to plan

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this project. Also, let Dixie know what topics and/or speakers you'd like to hear. Al thanked Dixie for this year's programs and speakers and for helping the MGVs get education hours.

- **Project GROW** – Al Burnard: it has been a successful year that ended with harvest of 86 lbs. of Chinese cabbage donated to the Food Pantry. Beds have been tilled and strawberries may need to be re-planted next spring. Al thanked everyone for their efforts throughout the year. He plans to notify the Garden Writers' Assoc. about the amount of donation made this year.
- **Speaker's Bureau** – Lisa Kovinchick and Eunice Hornsby: Lisa indicated Sara will speak during the Nov. 30, 9:00 am radio program. Lisa spoke at Marysville Kiwanis Club on Oct. 9, about all of the projects and activities the MGs take part in. **MGVs let Eunice know the topics you can speak about.** We will be better prepared when we receive requests for speakers. This may also enable us to do some outreach next year. Al spoke to King's Daughters Circle in Oct., and they made a donation to the MGs.
- **Educational Program:** Dixie reported: in January, Chris Ahlum of Ahlum & Arbor); feb: laura pakis on dogs in the garden; march: keith scheiderer on new annuals; also march 19: denise elsworth on pollinators (for a public outreach pgm); laurie contracted Donna Daniel (OIDNR); 2 speakers, hands on project & snack; need a volunteer to co-leader to lead the project; Dixie plans to book the room;
- **Other:** **MGVs: please enter your volunteer and education hours into VMS. These are due before Dec. 31. There is still time if you need to earn volunteer and education hours, but time is running out.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Covert

Kay Covert - Secretary