

Union County Master Gardener Association

Business Meeting Notes

September 23, 2015

Attendees

Dixie Bowen, Debbie Brown, Carole Carrius, Kay Covert, Vera Cyre, Donna Gehring, Scheral Greider, Joan Griffin, Betsy Hauck, Mary Ann Haynes, Eunice Hornsby, Deb Jeffers, Julie Jones, Harry Kirtley, Audrey Kise, Lisa Kovinchick, Natalie Landon, Laurie Lowe, Carolyn Madziar, Donna Maley, Bea Metz, Karen Mikols, Karen Moots, Kay Nichols, Sheila Nichols, Bill Paloney and Patty Sweeney

Call to Order: Dixie called the group to order (Al is attending the International MG Conference in Iowa to accept the *Search for Excellence Award* for Project GROW).

September Educational Program

Michele Thomas, Inniswood Assistant Public Gardens Manager, spoke about growing hydrangeas.

Business Meeting

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

Treasurer's Report: this month's activity, reflected in the report Carolyn posted to VMS this week, includes the Intern Training Class, payment for the t-shirt order and a \$500 donation for the raised beds in Equador.

Coordinator's Report:

- MGVs: Laurie needs assistance with the Intern Training Class the weeks of Sept. 28 and Oct. 19. Email Laurie at wildwabbit1@gmail.com to sign up.
- MGVs: training is set to begin in January for "Ask a MG". Email Laurie at wildwabbit1@gmail.com if you are interested and Laurie will notify Pam Bennett and Denise Johnson. You can complete the training via online webinar from your home. May is a busy month and demand drops off after that. This is a good way to get volunteer hours.
- MGVs: complete and turn in your volunteer and education hours before the end of Dec.

Old Business

- **Project Handbooks** - Committee Chairs: please complete the project handbooks and email them to Al. That way, he can upload them to VMS directly. Eunice requested that we re-send the email with the template and instructions.
 - Remember to take notes and digital photos as your project progresses throughout the year.
- **Officer's Handbooks** - We have received handbooks for the Treasurer and Secretary duties.
- **Garage cleanup** is schedule for Saturday, November 7 at noon, following the MGV Training Class.
Note: The OSU game is scheduled for 8:00 pm that day.
 - Sheral Greider obtained about 1000 plastic pots from the zoo's annual mum planting!

New Business

- **Donation to greenhouse project in Ecuador** – Kay read the thank you letter that we received from Hope Taft on behalf of the Tandana Foundation for our \$500 donation to their greenhouse project. The funds came from proceeds we received from the 2014 State MG Conference. Eunice spoke with Hope and passed along her gratitude for the donation. Eunice recommends the trip to Equador.

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- **Project GROW awards** – Laurie passed around the plaque and certificate that were awarded to Project GROW during the 2015 State MG Conference:
 - The certificate for *Outstanding MGV Project Backyard and Local Foods Category* was presented to Natalie and Betsy for display at COYC. The award included a \$100 voucher.
 - We plan to display the plaque for *Outstanding MGV Project – Medium Size Organization* at the Ag. Center. This award included a \$500 voucher.
 - Carolyn has both vouchers and is in the process of depositing them to the UCMG bank account.
- **Event at Dutch Mill Greenhouse, Oct. 17, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm** – Thanks to Sheral who has agreed to coordinate the event along with Bea and Karen M.
- **Officer Elections in October**
 - Eunice agreed to chair the Nominating Committee.
 - We plan to fill the Treasurer and Secretary positions
 - Carolyn's term expired and she is no longer eligible to seek re-election
 - Kay will step away from Secretary duties due to new work responsibilities
 - Detailed position descriptions were emailed to the MGVs
 - Dixie and Al plan to seek re-election
- **Upcoming events**
- **November Meeting Social and Photo Contest** – tentative date is Nov. 18. MGVs: turn photos in and vote during Oct. 28 meeting. Winners to be announced Nov. 18. See Barbi's Sept. 22 email for instructions and more details.
 - Officers will provide the main dishes. We will send more information in October.
- **2016 Budget Process** – Committee Chairs: please send Carolyn the income and expense amounts for each of your projects before the end of December 2015.
- **Annual audit** of our financial records will take place in December.
- **Annual Recognition Event** will be held in the March/April 2016 timeframe. MGVs: sign up to volunteer on the planning committee early in 2016.
- **Educational Workshop for the public** will be held Saturday, March 19, 2016. Denise Ellsworth agreed to speak on bees and pollinators. There may be additional presentations. Details to follow.

Project Reports

- **August Plant Sale** – Audrey Kise: Audrey requested the Armory for next year and is awaiting word.
- **Covered Bridge Festival** – Bea Metz and Kay Nichols: thanks to the 18 volunteers that worked from June through Sept. 20 to make the event a success. Bea's son cut 600+ stalks of corn! The committee received many compliments on their efforts to prepare and decorate the grounds. Even with the rain on Saturday, overall attendance was at least as good as last year.
- **Diagnostics/Hotline** – Laurie Lowe: no update at this time.
- **Love & Learn** – Chris Burnard: no update at this time.
- **Magnetic Springs Beautification**: Karen Long and Jon Weiss: no update at this time.
- **McCloud Park** – Dixie Bowen and Julie Jones: MGVs: the next Second Saturdays will be Oct. 10 and Nov. 14. We plan to plant bulbs in Nov.
 - MGVs: we need more bed chairs for next year. Contact Dixie and/or Julie at dixie_bowen@yahoo.com or shopwithjulie@aol.com to chair a bed.
 - Bed Chairs: please get your bed in shape for next year.

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- Working on outreach projects such as: “McCloud on Wheels” to visit four Senior Citizen centers in Marysville once every four months, to engage residents in projects including flower arranging, bulb planting, holiday floral arrangements and fairy gardens. Looking at Tues./Thurs. 10:30 am; Mon. or Fri. 9:45 am; Weds. 2:00 pm., in Oct. and Nov.
- **Monthly Meeting Educational Program** – Dixie Bowen: (see October Educational Program below)
- **Project GROW** – Al Burnard: the committee harvested 17 pounds of vegetables tonight and previously harvested 21 pounds of popcorn, tomatoes and peppers. They will soon harvest fall cabbage. The last work session is scheduled for Oct. 15. Natalie indicated the kids are doing a great job and thanked everyone that has volunteered this year. The kids really appreciate the MGV's efforts and this is a great experience for them.
- **Speaker's Bureau** – Lisa Kovinchick and Eunice Hornsby:
 - MGVs: Eunice needs someone to speak to Marysville Kiwanis about being an MGV, on a Thurs. (within next few weeks) at 8:30 am for 20 – 25 minutes. Respond to Eunice (hornsbys.1@osu.edu) by Fri. Sept. 25.
 - MGVs: Lisa is looking for someone to speak Nov. 30, Dec. 7, or Dec. 14, on a fall gardening topic such as putting the garden to bed, holiday plants to grow, caring for a live Christmas tree. Submit the information two weeks beforehand for the 8:00 am radio show. Lisa will also do the speaking if you provide the information.
- Sheral has a red polo MG shirt for sale, size XL

October Educational Program

Scott Zanon will present information about native trees, based on his book: “50 Desirable Trees for the Midwest”.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Covert

Kay Covert - Secretary