

Houston County Master Gardening Meeting

Date 1-23-18 - Special meeting to work on spring garden conference

Present: Loretta Knutson, Sue Meyer, Janene Hosch, Jean Davy, Mary Thompson, Mary Zaffke, Charmaine Uphaus, Terri Kolar, Doug Thompson, Lane Zaffke, Anna May, Jennifer Wister, Michael Wiste, Barb Hefte, Char Meiners.

Absent: Linda Lind (ill), Brenda Pohlman (working), Sarah Goff, Kathleen Taylor, Vicki Otto (vacation), Michael Cruse.

Welcome. Meeting called to order at the home of Janene Hosch 5:30pm

Treasury Report: Savings \$2,406.21 Checking \$1,377.01
(In 2017 we have spent \$2,000 on school grants and \$1,015 on education reimbursements.)

Old Business:

Approve last month's minutes, motion by Char, second by Loretta. Approval Unanimous

New Business:

Sue has internet and an email! skmeyer@goacentek.net

The focus of this meeting was to see where we are with things and continue organization of efforts for spring garden day. Loretta said the school also has an email list of conference attendees. We will compare that with our current list to see if we can correct any incorrect email addresses.

The website created by Doug looks great! Newspaper articles will also be listed on the website. January article on houseplants by Mary T is already listed. If anyone has past articles they can forward them to Doug for posting.

Caledonia paper will interview Loretta before the conference about the conference.

Anna and Doug both made contacts to Geri Parlin at the La Crosse paper. Geri will plan to interview one of our conference speakers. The group chose Harvey Buchite of Hidden Springs Flower farm to be interviewed about his presentation for the conference. Anna also notified Noah F who covers the Houston County local news. Anna has put save the date posters up at the library and Laundromat in La Crescent, and also in Hokah.

The brochure has been emailed out on the list serve. Doug has posted the brochure on the website and a link on FB. Doug has also made a spread sheet of area garden clubs (17) and also got the information on the Decorah MG group. He has emailed out to this group our conference information.

Doug and Mary T will check on getting the conference posted on the MG list serve.

Anna is making 2 door prize baskets.

Linda will be purchasing herbs to use as decoration on the tables then to sell at the country store.

Email from Brenda she has been working many of our meeting nights. Brenda said in the past she had donated the printing and postage to all the people who did not have email. It is a lot to expect anyone to cover all this cost. Brenda has some basket items and will bring those for the silent auction. We all welcome Brenda back and are glad she can attend the conference.

A meeting of some food committee members was held and reported by Anna. Food lines will proceed on both sides of the table to improve the speed. Salad was removed from the lunch to increase cookies and bars. Bars will be served with lunch. Cookies - chocolate chip and M&M will be served at the afternoon break. Soup will be lidded. The caterer will bill

the school which is tax exempt; the bill should be submitted by April 15th, so it can be paid the same month. 15% gratuity is added to the cost of the meal, so meals are \$8 a person. Speakers will not be charged for lunch. Vendors who wish to purchase a meal at the event will pay \$9. Charmaine emailed the school to confirm table set up, tables for coffee and soup, checking if soda machines will be operational, ample supplies of coffee & tea. Charmaine also completed the online request to Kwik trip for doughnut donation. If we are unable to get doughnuts donated, there is an in-store coupon 4 for \$1 cake doughnuts. Anna has purchased table cloths for food table.

“Gardening with Kids” panel (Janene, Mary T, Mary Z, Anna, Sue) met tonight as a separate group at the meeting. Mary T will contact Susan Oddsen as a potential panel presenter.

Vendor for La Crescent area - Vicki on vacation. Terri will check into this.

Brochure distribution Doug will work on a list such as Winona and La Crosse garden days, owl festival.

Bookmarks- the file was uploaded sent for printing, they look great and will be here soon for us to distribute.

Tasks:

Marketing/Promotion: Char, Doug, Jen

Food: Terri, Charmaine, Sue, Anna, Vicki, BJ

Speakers (also get speaker bio and speaker notes): Mary T, Mary Z, Lane

FB & website: Doug

Vendors/donations: Caledonia-Jean, Spring Grove-Kathy, LA Crescent-Terri. We have for vendors Hidden Springs Flower Farm, BJ soaps, and Pam Lamb garden art. Displays- Prairie Moon will have a display of catalogs, seeds. We have poster boards with information on butterflies, micro greens, and native plants.

Country Store: Sarah, Linda, Char, Janene

Silent Auction: Jean, Kathy, Jen

Tech support: provided by the school

Registration: Cindy, Sue, Mary T

Collating Committee: Jean, Sue, Cindy, Kathy, Janene-packets will contain speaker notes, blank page for note taking, comment form, how to become a MG brochure, name tags, front sticker on packet will have website and FB information

Set up 6 pm night before: everyone

Introductions:

Welcome, how MG funds are spent, introduction of Kaitlyn O’Connor –Loretta

Michael Cruse-Lane

MG panel-introduce each other

Kaitlyn O’Connor- Doug

Harvey Buchite-Mary T

Final – give out door prizes - Loretta

Sarah Goff - I spoke with Sarah tonight. She has been 1. Traveling, 2. Has a brother that is terminally ill, 3. Is having shoulder surgery February 5, will not be able to travel for 2 weeks after that 4. She is sorry to have missed meetings but will be attending the conference and helping at the country store. Wishing a speedy recovery to you Sarah.

Volunteer Hours this meeting: 1.5 hours, plus travel

Next Meetings: Date

Location

2-13-18

Janene ‘s House (POTLUCK)

3-6-18

Justice Center

Loretta