

Houston County Master Gardening Meeting

Date 2-13-18

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

Absent: Linda Lind (vacation), Brenda Pohlman, Sarah Goff (recovering from surgery), Kathleen Taylor, Vicki Otto (vacation), Anna May.

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

Treasury Report:

Savings \$2,406.21

Checking \$1,375.15

Total funds \$3,781.36

Old Business:

Approve special meeting minutes as mailed out. Char motion to accept, Mary T. second, minutes approved.

New Business:

Email from Nancy indicating bill from Elsie (caterer) needs to be turned in by April 6. All vouchers for payment must be submitted to the business office no later than April 10 for April payment. Payments will be mailed out after the school board meeting on Monday April 16.

Mary T contacted Susan Oddsen, she will be on the "gardening with children" panel.

Janene received a 4 foot grow light as a donation. The group decided we would use it at the silent auction.

Donation from Bauer's Market pending.

Jean D had some brochures printed. About 200 bookmarks are still available for distribution. Jean D also checked out Hennepin County donation sites, Mother Earth gardens, Tangle Town gardens, Subway, Quillins. Jean also made a coupon "win 2 hours with a MG". Jean updated the calendar of events that will go into the conference packets; Fillmore County Garden tour was also added.

Speaker notes and Bios, Mary has talked with Harvey (Hidden Springs Flower Farm) he will have a hand out, Doug spoke with Kaitlyn she will provide Prairie Moon Nursery catalog and seed packets. Mary Z will contact Seed Savers from Decorah, IA for catalogs & possibly seed samples.

Geri P interviewed Harvey of Hidden Springs Flower Farm; Doug is checking when this will be printed in the paper. The garden section for the La Crosse newspaper comes out in February.

A few bills were turned in for website, bookmarks and table clothes. It was discussed and agreed the cost of bookmarks and table clothes should be shared with the school.

The school garden conference is coming up in March. Mary T said we should endorse the program, this does not cost anything, it gives us exposure and we also receive \$10 off the cost of each registration. Anna and Susan expressed an interest in the conference. The MG program again will reimburse half the cost of admission and gas expense.

Baskets/donations the group listed ideas they have already come up with- Anna (door prizes), Terri (soap, small grill, gourds, potting basket), Mary & Doug (Italian type goodies, coffee basket), Jen & Mike (potting soil, seeds, tools), Janene (TV night basket), Char (bird house, hummingbird feeder and syrup), Lane (maple syrup), Loretta (bluebird houses and directions), Sue (Easter Basket). Brenda told us in an email that she will again be providing several baskets.

Michael presented Char and BJ with their official name tags and certificates. Michael recently attended noxious weed training where he received invasive species calendars which he gave to any of us who wanted one. He also reminded us of the Extension Master Gardener Program-Flowers for Pollinators Training Workshop. The workshop training is Saturday April 7, 1:00-4:00pm at the 4-H Building in Rochester MN, cost only \$15.

Tasks:

The school will register all MG (except Vicki) for the MG conference. Susan Oddsen (susan.oddsen@gmail.com) in addition to our speakers Harvey Buchite, Michael Cruse, Kaitlyn O'Connor also should be registered.

Thinking ahead:

Thyme to Garden Saturday March 17, 2018 looking good!!

Sharing Ideas:

Volunteer Hours this meeting: 1 hour plus travel time

Next Meeting: Date	Location
3-6-18 5:30pm	Justice Center
3-14-18 Packet Collating 9:00am	High school

Submitted by Terri Kolar, Secretary