

Houston County Master Gardeners
Regular Meeting

Date: 6/18/2019

Present: Jean Davy, Sarah Goff, Barb Hefte, Janine Hosch, Loretta Knutson, Linda Lind, Anna May, Sue Meyer, Bev Nelson, Vicki Otto, Mary Thompson, Jennifer Wiste, Mike Wiste, Lane Zaffke, and Mary Zaffke.

Absent: Richard Bartz, Terri Kolar, Char Meiners, Brenda Pohlman. Kathy Taylor, Doug Thompson, Charmaine Uphaus, and Deb Zilmer.

Guest: Jean Baty-Young

Houston County Extension Agent Present: Mike Cruse

Welcome: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mary Thompson at the Houston County CJC conference room.

Janine Hosch gave a presentation on the Asian longhorn tick complete with a handout.

Sarah Goff and Vicki Otto shared a training presentation on Growing Vegetables that is intended to be presented to beginning gardeners. They also included handouts and a PowerPoint slideshow.

Secretary's Report: On motion, the minutes of the May 16, 2019 minutes were approved.

Treasurer Jean Davy gave the treasury report. The account balances are as follows: Checking - \$2518.32, Savings - \$2613.33, CD - \$2000.00. Total assets are \$7131.65. It was noted that a check for half of the garden workshop was received for \$704.95. Noted expenses were Internet boost-\$154.96 and Fun Fest Banner - \$92.69 for a total of \$247.65. On motion, the treasurer's report was approved. Discussion concerning the treasury amount was discussed with suggestions of spending the money down. Mary Thompson reminded people that there would be more expenses coming up.

Extension Report: Mike reported that the Fillmore County MG group has cancelled their July 9 Evening in the Garden event. He also reminded members to promote regional and state activities.

Also noted that Mary and Doug Thompson and Jean Davy will host an educational presentation on Pollinators at the July meeting/picnic at Sue Meyer's farm.

Old Business: Discussion about the frequency of educational presentations and training was discussed. No decision made.

Janine reported on the successful Fun Fest at Founder's Day in Caledonia was a success with 35 adults and 45 children participating. Activities included Flower Pounding among other things and watermelon water was provided for guests. It was suggested that this presentation theme of "Partying with Nature" be repeated at Spring Grove's Uffda Fest in October. Maybe leaves could be pounded instead of flowers at that time. Rain barrels and Composting Barrels were given away as door prizes.

Mary Thompson reported the September 21 Regional Gathering in Houston registration email was sent out a few weeks ago. Because some were not sure if they had received the email, Mike found a link which he sent to Mary so that she could forward the information again to the MG members.

Mary Zaffke reported that Mandy's Garden is doing well, and Mandy is getting a lot of affirmation from the locals concerning her efforts.

The Houston County Fair Booth theme ideas will be solidified at the July meeting. It was suggested that maybe the Partying with Nature theme could be used there also. Also noted that there are a number of brochures and handouts available for dispersing at the fair but need to be ordered.

New Business: Next year's programming committee needs to start on events for 2020. Mary Thompson asked for volunteers and those people are Linda Lind, Bev Nelson, Mary Thompson, Jen Wiste, and Mary Zaffke. If anyone else would like to be on the committee, please let Mary T know.

Mary T asked for a sharing time in order to hear from everyone about their gardens or other events in their lives. All participated.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Participation time: One hour of volunteer time will be given for attendance, and 45 minutes will be given for education time.

Upcoming events/dates to remember:

Annual Picnic - Wednesday, July 17 at Sue Meyer's Fam
County Fair - Set up Tuesday, August 13 Fairgrounds
Regional Gathering - Saturday, Sept 21 - Houston Elementary School
Plant Exchange in Caledonia - Saturday, Sept 21 - Caledonia city park

Respectfully submitted,
Bev Nelson, Secretary (Acting)