

Houston County Master Gardeners' Meeting

Date: 8/13/2019

Present: Anna May, Barb Hefte, Bev Nelson, Char Meiners, Doug Thompson, Janene Hosch, Jean Davy, Kathy Taylor, Linda Lind, Loretta Knutson, Mary Thompson, Mike Wiste, Sarah Goff, Vickie Otto, Charmaine Uphaus, Sue Meyer

Absent: Brenda Pohlman, Jennifer Wiste, Lane Zaffke, Mary Zaffke, Richard Bartz, Terri Kolar

Welcome. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Mary Thompson at the Houston County Fairgrounds.

On motion the minutes of the July 17, 2019 meeting were approved.

The fair booth sign-up sheet was reviewed. It was felt that the winners of prizes from our booth should pick them up at the Extension Office during regular business hours. Loretta reminded everyone to wear their Master Gardener shirts and name tags when they work at the booth. She felt it was also good advertisement to wear them when attending other fair events.

Mary Thompson reminded everyone of the regional gathering scheduled for September 21st at the Houston Elementary School. So far only 8 people have signed up, and she urged those planning to attend to sign up soon. The registration fee is \$15.00, and master gardeners will be reimbursed this amount after they attend. Rick Bartz is recommending using the school to cater the lunch and refreshments. If they are not available, he suggested Smoke & Chrome. Master Gardeners will be needed to assist with registration the morning of the event, setting up and taking down tables, and possibly serving lunch. This is also the day of the plant exchange.

Discussion was held regarding the fall schedule. The next meeting is scheduled for September 16th. Bonnie Tollefson will give a follow-up presentation on Monarchs. In addition, Mary, Doug and Jean will give a presentation on Pollinators

Mary Zaffke has signed up for a booth at Uffda Fest in Spring Grove and the "Partying with Nature" theme will be used.

Mary Thompson reported that there is a push to get more people involved in the Master Gardener program, especially men, younger people and those with diverse backgrounds. She suggested the possibility of encouraging Mandy to become a Master Gardener.

Mary Thompson brought up the possibility of Rick Bartz starting a gardening club at the Houston School. Kathy Taylor suggested projects with the 4-H clubs, the Boy/Girl Scouts, and assisting with landscaping for the Habitat for Humanity house in Spring Grove.

Bev Nelson reported on the interactive board she made for the fair booth on composting. This can easily be changed in order to be used for other topics.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m. 45 minutes of volunteer time will be given for attendance at this meeting, plus whatever time each individual assisted with booth set-up.