

## **Boone County Master Gardeners Meeting – July 27, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30am by President Butch Kidd. The location of this meeting was outdoors near the shelter house of Lebanon Church of Christ 1204 Lafayette Ave, Lebanon. 26 people were in attendance.

Because of COVID guidelines there was no hospitality.

**Secretary Report** – Barb Burkhardt No corrections to the May’s meeting minutes. Minutes were approved.

**Treasurer’s Report** – Jane Bewley Balance as of the May meeting was \$1547.61. \$27 in dues were added. There were no expenses. Balance as of July 27, 2020 is \$1547.61. All grant money has been distributed.

**Vice President’s Report** – Lynn Kenyon The Fairgrounds South garden could use some weeding. Lynn mentioned that the September meeting will have a presentation about Indiana Wetlands. Some discussion occurred about logistics needed for this upcoming meeting.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Newsletter:** Holly Catron Deadline for the next newsletter is August 31, 2020.

**Fairground Gardens:** Lydia McNamara volunteered to be in charge of the Fairground gardens.

**Community Gardens:** Valerie Jasper The gardens at St. Peter’s church have been expanded. There is also a rain garden there. Each week Mental Health America Kids come to work in the gardens. Last week 22 lbs of green beans were picked. A question was raised as to where were the native plant signs.

Our program today is about the production gardens at Lebanon Church of Christ.

**Website:** Butch reported that he renewed the website for 2 years.

**Day Trips:** Linda Trips The July 8<sup>th</sup> day trip to Terra Flora Nursery in Martinsville was well received. She also mentioned that anyone can go there by calling first. She is planning a late August day trip to Perennials Plus and a Japanese garden in Carmel. More information will be forthcoming and you will need to RSVP, if attending.

**Old Business:** none

### **New Business**

Barb Burkhardt asked if there should be signage for the Rainscaping Garden and the Production Garden at Lebanon Church of Christ.

### **Curt’s Report**

There will be a virtual fall Master Gardeners class running from August 25 to Dec 15<sup>th</sup> (Tuesdays) from 6:30-8:30PM. In addition there will be a in person County Connection class each Wednesday from 5:30-6:30PM. Cost is \$175. If more than one in a family wants to attend and share the manual, the cost will be \$270. Registration will be done on a link to Purdue University but each registrant will need to bring an ID to the Extension office so a background check can be done. Master Gardeners will be able to participate in some sessions for advanced training via a link that Curt will supply. More details to follow.

The Rainscaping Train-the-Trainer class that was to occur in June was cancelled. Instead a virtual substitute training is to occur in 5 sessions on Sept 21, 23, 30, Oct 5, and 7 from 2:30-5:30PM. Cost is to be determined. Curt still hopes to host a training class next spring. Valerie Jasper asked if there was a way for Master Gardener to get designated as a "Rainscaping Expert" on their badge?

Badges were presented to:

Kelly Petit - Master Gardener

Jane Bewley – Advanced Master Gardener

Susan Kovach – Master Gardener

Cheryl Pleak Copeland - Advanced Master Gardener

Lana Lytle - Bronze Master Gardener

**Opportunities:** There will be a hosta sale this Saturday, August 1 from 9AM – 5 PM at 11542 Weeping Willow Drive Zionsville

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55am.

Today's program is a presentation and tour by the Boone County Master Gardener group of Kelly Petit, Lana Lytle, Lydia McNamara, Amelia Braga, Mary Wagner-Shields and Brad Denton about the production garden at Lebanon Church of Christ. Their mission is to alleviate food insecurity especially in the Boone County. Produce is presently donated to the Shalom House, Caring Center, Freedom Church Food Pantry and Mental Health America. They discussed the history of the program, the budget and funding for this garden, plus the logistics and challenges of designing, planting and maintaining the gardens. As of this date 284 lbs of produce have been donated. There is a need for newspaper to mulch the gardens so Master Gardeners were asked to drop of newspapers at the shelter house. Valerie Jasper also mentioned that they were collecting plastic bottle caps and butter tub lids to be used to qualify for a bench from the Boone County Solid Waste District.

The group is also needing a weather station to know when it has rained at the gardens so they know if supplemental watering is needed.. The Master Gardeners were then able to tour the gardens as well as the Rainscaping Garden.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barb Burkhardt