

Boone County Master Gardener Meeting Minutes - March 15, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Butch Kidd at 9:30am. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this meeting was held via Zoom. 32 people were in attendance.

Our program was held first due to other commitments by our guest speakers. Dr. Tom Jeffers and his daughter, Andrea Speigelberg, were our speakers. Tom spoke on Raising Chickens in your Backyard Settings and Andrea served as the question moderator.

Secretary's Report – Barb Burkhardt There were no corrections to the January 25, 2021 minutes. It was moved/ seconded (Kidd/Savage) and approved to accept the January 25, 2021 minutes.

Treasurer's Report – Jane Bewley Balance as of last meeting (1/25/2021) was \$2065.62. Dues income for 2021 was \$315. Expenses were from the grants distribution (Maplelawn Farms - \$240, Boone Meadows Elementary School - \$250, Zionsville Cultural District - \$250 and Production Garden - \$1000). So the total expenses were \$1740 leaving a balance as of 3/15/2021 of \$640.61.

Jane mentioned that 47 people had paid their dues for 2021.

Vice-President - Lynn Kenyon – no report

Committee Reports

Newsletter - Holly Catron – Deadline for next newsletter is April 30, 2021

Fairground Gardens - Lydia McNamara announced a workday tomorrow, March 16th at the Fairgrounds Gardens from 10am – 3pm. If needed, she will also hold another workday this Saturday, March 20 from 10am – 3pm. Jane Savage requested that if someone would check the pollinator garden to see if additional plants are needed to fill in spaces, to let her know so that she can order them.

Community Garden - Amelia Braga gave a PowerPoint presentation about that the Spring start up at the Community Garden. They had a workday on March 6th where they spread the compost (bought by the MG grant) and top soil (provided by the fairgrounds). Zionsville Girl Scout Troop 291 moved about 1/3 of the top soil and compost onto the beds that day. She also thanked Jane Savage for her donation and Curt and Jack for their assistance in moving the topsoil to the site. There is another workday scheduled on Saturday March 20th when 12 volunteers from the Lebanon community will move the rest of the compost and soil and rototill and build mounds and rows. Curt and Jane Savage offered rain barrels to the group and will get them to the site.

Gardenfest - Some discussion about the feasibility of having it in September. Final decision was tabled to the May meeting. Hendricks County will be having their Spring Gardening Show April 24th. Cheryl Pleak Copeland is going to get contact information from their vendors.

Grant Committee – Sharon Grebe said we received thank you notes from the schools and the Zionsville Cultural District for the grants. She is stepping down as chair and Cheryl Pleak Copeland, Lana Lytle and Jane Savage will be the future grant committee.

Website - Holly Catron is requesting photos and information about MG activities. Amelia will send her PowerPoint presentation to Holly.

4H Fair Booth - July 17-23 Decision to participate was tabled to the May meeting. Curt said that if we were to sell plants, we need a dealer's and probably a merchant's license. If we give away plants, we don't need a license. A question was raised if we could have a donation box for the plants.

Overnight Bus Trip -Cheryl Gobeyn and Peggy Houchens Trip is delayed until 2022.

Day Trips - Linda Trips will have a list of possible day trips and dates by the May meeting.

Old Business

Nominating Committee - Holly Catron - need some additional members to assist on this committee. Need an officer slate for President and Vice- President for 2021 and all officers for 2022.

New Business

Proposed Changes to ByLaws - Barb Burkhard presented the proposed changes to the Bylaws. It was moved, seconded (Kidd/ Jasper) and approved to accept the changes in the Bylaws. Barb thanked the committee of Amelia Braga, Cheryl Pleak Copeland, Sandy Dailey, Valerie Jasper, Lana Lytle and Lesley Cain for their work.

Sara Michael was named Volunteer of the Year at the recent Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser for all her efforts working with the new Habitat homeowners in designing the landscape for their new homes and serving as project leader/supervisor of the volunteers on Landscape Day.

Curt's Report

Master Gardener requirements were suspended for 2020. To maintain active status in 2021 Master Gardeners must have 6 Volunteer hours and 6 Educational hours.

Badges - Sandy Dailey- Master Gardener
Sharon Grebe - Bronze
Lana Lytle – Silver

Requests

1. Thorntown Library would like to present a program "Succulent Garden – Make it and Take It" and is asking for help from a Master Gardener. The program will take place in June or early July. The library would pay for materials. Mary Nierste-Robbins and Lesley Cain were interested.
2. Hussey Mayfield library is looking for Master Gardener assistance in planting a seed garden of flowers, herbs and vegetables on their grounds. Amelia Braga expressed interest.

Curt presented the annual **Civil Rights and Diversity training** to the Master Gardeners.

He also shared the link to You Tube videos produced by Boone County Master Gardeners https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCk6FL83DwyG95_6-ZtM99kA.

Educational Opportunities – See the Gardengate Newsletter

Junior Master Gardener Training - If interested, contact Valerie Jasper or Sandy Dailey

Purdue is also hosting a Virtual Lunch and Learn series . These are free programs. For information about these programs, go to <https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/master-gardener/education-hours-opportunities/> and <https://app.box.com/s/vo0qz03ik5di5z9ajkok4hol8q0dgedw>

There was some discussion about meeting in person at the May meeting. A poll was taken and most indicated that they would prefer an in-person meeting adhering to regulations in place at that time.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Next meeting - May 17, 2021 9:30am

Respectfully submitted,
Barb Burkhardt