

## **Boone County Master Gardener Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2022**

The meeting was called to order by President Karen Hogan at 9:30am at the Boone County Fairgrounds Community Building. There were 23 in attendance.

**Secretary's Report** – Joan Nicolet There were no corrections. The minutes were accepted as distributed.

**Treasurer's Report** -Lesley Cain Karen Hogan has been added to the bank account. There are a total of 55 paid members currently. The current balance is \$1,213.64. The dealer's license obtained from the State of Indiana which will allow us to sell plants arrived last month. Valerie Jasper will create a spreadsheet in order to register the perennials, trees, and shrubs that we sell. The DNR wants this information tracked.

**Vice President's Report** – Valerie Jasper Our by-laws stipulate that we should have an Educational Committee. Sandy Dailey and Amelia Braga volunteered to be on that committee. We will need speakers later in the year for our meetings. Please inform Valerie of any recommendations.

### **Committee Reports**

**Newsletter** – Sandy Dailey If anyone has suggestions for features for the newsletter, please inform Sandy.

**Fairground Gardens** – Jane Bewley There will be a work session after this meeting to clean-up the gardens around the building. Jack will be delivering mulch from the mulch pile to the gardens for spreading.

**Community Gardens** – Amelia Braga Production Garden volunteers will be participating in the Whitestown and Lebanon Farmers' Markets this summer in a one-time event. There will be a table with MG information, various leaflets from Purdue extension, and seeds and planting information. The greenhouse which suffered damage in a windstorm last winter is almost back together. If anyone is interested in volunteering with greenhouse plants, contact Lana Lytle. Mary Wagner-Shields has scheduled to have a table at the Zionsville Greenfest on April 23 from 9:00am-12:00pm. It will have information similar to the Farmers' Market tables.

**Rainscaping Team** – Valerie Jasper A class has not yet been scheduled. Purdue extension has to be involved and with Curt's replacement not yet named, no class has been scheduled. Maplelawn Farmstead in Zionsville will be ready when we are ready. The question was asked if it would be possible to have the Johnson County person assist with this. A visit to Maplelawn Farmstead to investigate a possible location for a rain garden may be scheduled.

**Gardenfest** – Colleen Hendricks A meeting was held to check that all plans are in place for Gardenfest on April 2, 2022. Peggy Houchens, chair of the Potting Shed, asked that we price our own donations and make the amounts even, usually between \$.25 and \$1.00. The aprons have been washed and the green sheets and Master Gardener booth have been located. The checks were deposited for the vendor participation as we move ahead to hold Gardenfest. Peggy Houchens will pick up a cash box from Judy Kojetin. Barb Burkhardt asked for help in the café and still needs 4 workers from 8:30-11:00 and 3 workers at the hospitality table both from 8:30-11:00 and 11:00-1:30. There will be a soil testing offered. Native plant seeds will be for sale at \$1.00 per packet. It was suggested that we combine the hospitality table and the tree distribution. Desserts need to be brought either Friday or early Saturday. Volunteers will be needed for clean-up. We should promote the education table. If we want younger/stronger people to become Master Gardeners, we must think of ways to attract them such as evening meetings or online.

**Grant Committee** - Lana Lytle for Linda Pleak Copeland The checks were written and mailed to the grant recipients in February. The committee met to update the Grant page on the website which was done by Lana Lytle. There will be a sign-up sheet at Gardenfest for interested parties to leave their information to receive notification on the grant application. The committee proposes a discussion at the May meeting for the monetary amount that will be available for grants. The committee plans to revamp the Grant application form and present at the September meeting for group discussion and approval.

**Youth Learning Garden** – Trish McCormick This is located behind the Central Church of Christ. Last year over 600 lbs. of produce were harvested. A bench is being provided by Heart of Lebanon.

**Website** – Lana Lytle We now have domain ownership. The Gardenfest page is done. Grant opportunities will be posted. We are focusing on making it more engaging. The website is MasterGardenerBooneCounty.org and it is a secured site.

**4-H Leaders** – Amelia Braga No report.

**Overnight Bus Trip** – The committee needs chairs to start planning. Participants can take along family and/or friends.

**Day Trip** – We are working on a trip to a Hosta garden. Look for this information in the next newsletter.

**Junior Master Gardener** – Sandy Dailey Sandy has sign-up for the Junior Master Gardener Program. Camp brochures are also available.

The question was raised about the Production Garden being on the Shalom Garden Tour. The Lebanon Church of Christ where the garden is located declined participation due to the liability on the church property.

A spreadsheet was distributed listing Boone County Master Gardener Volunteer Opportunities.

### **Old Business**

1. As mentioned earlier, the dealer's license has been obtained in order to sell plants. Karen and Valerie will make labels for the plants.
2. Valerie Jasper asked for approval for the 501(c)(3) filing and the expenditure of \$350 for full funding of the online filing. Jane Savage moved and Mary Wagner-Shields seconded. The motion passed unanimously. This designation will assist in receiving not-for-profit grants and getting the exempt certificate.
3. The by-laws must be changed to "doing business as Boone County Master Gardeners Inc." The constitution was changed to reflect new duties of the treasurer. Kelly Petit moved and Jane Savage seconded that these changes be made. The motion passed unanimously.
4. A discussion of the \$15 dues took place. It was decided to keep the dues at \$15 due by January 31 with a late fee assessed past due. The late fee will be \$5.00.
5. It was suggested that we hold an evening meeting in the summer when it is light so late.
6. Please use the new MG logos available. There are 3 variations.
7. If there are seeds left from Gardenfest, they will be available at Greenfest at the Zionsville Town Hall for a free will donation.
8. Purdue hopes to have Curt's position filled by April 1.
9. Boone County is forming a Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA). There will be informational meetings on Wednesday, April 13 at the Lebanon Public Library at 6:00-7:00pm; Thursday, April 21 at the Thorntown Public Library at 6:00-7:00pm; and Saturday, April 23 at Zionsville Greenfest, Town Hall, from 10:00-11:00am. Thirty-eight counties in Indiana already have CISMA.

The next meeting will be May 16, 2022, at the Fairgrounds Community Building. Jane Savage will present the educational program on Indiana Invasive Plants.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45am. The volunteers proceeded to work on the fairground gardens.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Nicolet, Secretary