

Hendricks County Master Gardeners
Minutes of the February 20, 2018 Meeting

Call to Order and Welcome - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Steve Pearl, 2018 HCMG President.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Steve Pearl asked for the January meeting minutes to be approved as posted on the HCMG website and included on the handout at tonight's meeting. Robin-Elizabeth Parsley motioned to accept the January meeting minutes. Chuck Dallas seconded the motion. The motion carried by a voice vote.

Ron Stoner, 2018 HCMG Treasurer, said the updated budget is on the back of the agenda.

Ed Freeman, 2018 Communications Director, said the Purdue Master Gardener State Conference Website is up and running. Ed asked everyone to save plastic bags and newspapers for the free trees that will be handed out at Gardening for All Ages (GFAA). The trees have been ordered. Since we did not receive many seed donations, he will need to order additional seeds to give away in the GFAA Free Seeds booth. Steve announced that Chuck and Pat Dallas have confirmed thirty-seven vendors so far for GFAA. We still need a Chairperson for the GFAA Children's Booth.

Rosie Lenihan, Co-Chair 2018 Purdue Master Gardener State Conference, said that Janet Cunningham e-mailed State Conference registration forms. Rosie praised Ed for getting the State Conference Website up and running. It is the first time there has been a State Conference Website. Rosie reminded everyone that we will be charged PayPal fees if we register online and encouraged us to use paper registrations. Rosie said there is a box at the back of the room for members to place their old HCMG badges in. These will be displayed at the State Conference and later returned. She said the Centerpiece Committee needs succulents. Rosie said they received their largest donation (\$3,500) to date from Osmocote.

Kim Somermeyer, Co-Chair Demonstration Garden, thanked Rosie Lenihan for creating the Labor for Lumber Committee. She said Becky Troutman has been working on the Entry Garden. We are trying to resolve the continuing drainage issue in the Pollinator Garden. Work on the Apiary is continuing. D Dottenwhy is in the process of securing volunteers to work with the 4-H Sparks kids who want to volunteer in the Demonstration Garden. Steve said there is a special 4-H volunteer form which must be completed. Kim announced that members from the Demonstration Garden Committee will be doing four presentations and be out in the gardens on breaks during GFAA.

Cathy Frederick, Chair May Plant Sale and Auction, said the May Plant Sale and Auction will be on May 15, 2018. The set up begins at 3:00 pm. The Shop and Go part of the sale will begin at 6:00 pm. The Auction part of the sale will begin at 7:00 pm. A short business meeting will be held before the auction. A volunteer list for the May Plant Sale and Auction and refreshments is on the wall. Since the May Plant Sale and Auction is open to the public, lots of refreshments are needed. Cathy will provide the plant label guidelines at the next meeting.

Steve Pearl advised us that we have received approval to reopen the Education Center even though an Agricultural and Natural Resources (ANR) Educator has not been hired to replace Angie Tilton. The reopening is subject to limitations. We can only use and reference Purdue publications. Carol Pearson moved into our Education Center office and we will be located in her old office area. Steve Patterson, Executive Director of the Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Complex, may eventually be setting up Classroom D as a resource center.

Steve went over the sign-up sheets. He said we still need committee chairs for the Plainfield Farmers Market, Danville Farmers Market, and the Summer Picnic. Deloris Elza volunteered to be the Plainfield Farmers Market Chair.

Unfinished Business

Steve said our ANR Educator position has not yet been filled. It was reposted as of February 1st.

New Business

Steve said there is still one volunteer spot open for the Flower and Patio Show Booth.

Steve announced that Janet Cunningham will place a name tag order by May 2, 2018. Hours needs to be input into the MG Manager System no later than May 1, 2018. If a member is advancing to Gold Level, it will be announced at the State Conference. If a member is advancing to a level other than Gold, it will be announced at the next Christmas Party. Janet will send out an e-mail with additional details.

Becky Troutman, GFAA Gardener's Closet Chair, announced that she is handling the Gardener's Closet at GFAA again this year. She asked for donations and explained she will take just about anything. She can pick up donations, or if you let her know ahead of time, she can drive her truck to a meeting.

Megan Eller, GFAA Wizard's Booth Chair, discussed the Wizard's Booth.

Jan Myers, Membership Directory Chair, said that if you paid your membership dues and signed the annual volunteer agreement, your directory is ready on a table at the back of the room. If you have not paid your membership dues and signed the annual agreement and want a directory, touch base with Ron Stoner and then her.

Audience to Members

Colletta Kosiba said she attended the Indiana Invasive Species Day recently held at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds. People in six counties are creating groups to educate people on invasive species. One person is working to educate nurseries to not sell invasive species. Steve said it was an upbeat day.

Steve Somermeyer announced that if you are interested in being a "yellow shirt" for the Indianapolis 500, touch base with him.

Steve Pearl gave a demonstration on how to use plastic milk cartons to start new seeds.

Nancy Rice told about a new pet door that is only programmed to let in certain pets based on their microchip.

Dates to Remember

February 28, 2018, Using Native Plants in Home Garden - Brownsburg Library 317-852-3167

March 20, 2018, March HCMG Meeting – John Thieme – Where Have All the Butterflies Gone?

April 9, 2018 (6:30), Easy Perennials: Spring, Summer & Fall – Brownsburg Library

April 27, 2018, GFAA Set up and April 28, 2018, GFAA

May 2, 2018 (6:30), Perennial Plant Exchange – Plainfield Library 317-839-6602

May 4, 2018 (4:00-7:00) and May 5, 2018 (9:00-3:00) - Outdoor Learning Center Native Plant Sale

May 7, 2018 (6:00), Perennial Plant Exchange – Brownsburg Library

May 15, 2018, HCMG Plant Sale and Auction

June 7 – 9, 2018, Purdue Master Gardener State Conference

Steve asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Howard Lacey motioned to adjourn the meeting. Megan Eller seconded the motion. The motion passed and the business meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Following the break, Teresa Byington presented the program, Roses for Today's Garden.

Submitted by,

Terri Tramm
2018 HCMG Secretary