

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

Before the Business Meeting, John Thieme presented the program, Where Have All the Butterflies Gone?

Call to Order and Welcome - The meeting was called to order at 8:05 p.m. by Steve Pearl, 2018 HCMG President.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Steve Pearl asked for the February meeting minutes to be approved as posted on the HCMG website and included on the handout at tonight's meeting. Judy Kenninger motioned to accept the February meeting minutes. Jan Myers seconded the motion. The motion carried by a voice vote.

Steve Pearl said that Ron Stoner, 2018 HCMG Treasurer, was unable to attend the meeting tonight. Steve said the updated Treasurer's Report was on a handout and asked if anyone had any questions. No one did.

Ed Freeman, 2018 Communications Director, said the Purdue Master Gardener State Conference Website is up and running. He said approximately ninety-five people have registered to attend the State Conference. Of those who have registered, approximately one-third have registered online and two-thirds have submitted paper registrations.

Pat Geer, Gardening For All Ages (GFAA) Children's Booth Committee Co-chair, asked for someone to sign up to chair the Children's Booth Committee for next year. The Committee members meet to plan the activities that will be presented in the Children's Booth each year. She asked for additional volunteers to work in this year's GFAA Children's Booth.

Nancy Rice, GFAA Children's Booth Committee Co-chair, after a reminder from Kerry Cates, announced that Children's Booth volunteers must take the online course to be able to volunteer with children. Nancy asked for additional volunteers to work in this year's GFAA Children's Booth. She said one of the planned activities is to make owls using Red Pine cones. She said she needs more Red Pine cones. Marie Frazier said she had some pine cones in her car she could donate and will give them to Nancy after the meeting. Nancy said another planned activity is to plant White Pine seedlings for the kids to take home.

Pam Brown announced that while on the Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds Website, she discovered a chance to get some free seeds. She was able to get 500 free packets of seeds to include in the GFAA Free Seeds Booth.

Chuck Dallas, GFAA Vendor Committee Chair, announced that there will be sixty vendor booths at GFAA. Fifty-five booths have been sold so far. Returning vendors have dropped approximately 30%. However, new vendors have replaced the ones who did not return.

Becky Troutman, GFAA Gardener's Closet Committee 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.

Jan Myers, 2018 Purdue Master Gardener State Conference Committee Co-Chair, reminded everyone to get registered for the State Conference. She went over the breakdown of fees and what activities are being offered. She told us the registration fee goes up as of April 1st.

Kathleen Hutton, 2018 Purdue Master Gardener State Conference Silent Auction Committee Chair, announced that the Silent Auction will be on Friday night at the State Conference. She said it is a great opportunity to get volunteer hours. Their first meeting will be on April 5th.

Steve Somermeyer, Demonstration Garden Committee Co-chair, announced that standardized signage was agreed upon at the last meeting. He told us the Hendricks County Fairgrounds staff built a 4' x 8' shed for the Apiary. They donated the lumber and the labor. Dick Meier, Demonstration Garden Raised Bed Committee Chair, is going to be getting members together soon to treat wood to be used in two additional raised beds. The Keyhole Garden has been moved to its new location.

Steve Pearl announced that the 4-H Sparks Group and a Girl Scout Troop will be working in the Demonstration Garden. D Dottenwhy is working with the 4-H Sparks Group.

Cathy Frederick, May Plant Sale and Auction Committee Chair, 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. Cathy said the plant labels should include the common plant name, the scientific plant name, a picture, and planting instructions, if possible. She also said cardboard boxes and wagons are needed. She said rare plants will be included in the auction. Cathy said a tour of Bill Stevens' property is included in one of the State Conference Tours. He needs four people to help him prepare for the State Conference Tour.

Jerry McIntyre, Education Center Committee Chair, said we were originally told we could not open the Education Center without an Agricultural and Natural Resources Educator. We then received permission to do so. We lost the room we had been using and had been promised a new space. However, someone moved into that space too. He wants a suitable space for us to use. Lots of conversations have been happening. Hopefully in the next few weeks things will be decided.

Steve Pearl said we need a Committee Chair for the Danville Farmers Market. If someone doesn't volunteer to be the Chair, we will not have a Danville Farmers Market Booth. The Avon and Plainfield Farmers Markets need more volunteers. The Avon Farmers Market is on a Tuesday evening. The Plainfield Farmers Market is on a Wednesday evening. The Danville Farmers Market is on a Saturday morning. Ann Selvy announced that she needs donations of folders with two pockets.

Unfinished Business

Steve Pearl said that awards are handed out once per year. However, if we will have enough hours to advance to a new badge level, we need to input our hours into the MG Manager System no later than May 1st. Janet Cunningham will place a new badge order on May 2nd. This will allow the new badges to be received by the State Conference.

Steve reminded us that we receive one hour of education when we attend a HCMG Meeting Presentation. We need to enter this hour into the MG Manager System. No one enters these hours for us anymore. He also reminded us that we do not claim travel time when we attend an educational event. We can only claim travel time when we earn volunteer hours.

Steve told us that we need to enter the number of contacts (i.e. people who we educate) for GFAA.

New Business

Jan Myers discussed ordering new vests to be used at the State Conference and other HCMG functions. They will cost \$17 and come in a variety of sizes. Various questions were asked and answered. Terri Tramm suggested a straw poll of members in attendance – who would be willing to purchase their own vest. It appeared that most members raised their hands. Colletta Kosiba motioned that HCMG purchase 108 vests and that members be allowed to buy them back if desired. Judy Kenninger seconded the motion. The motion passed by a voice vote. Steve Pearl asked that we note the size of vest we want to purchase by our name on tonight's Meeting Sign-in Sheet.

Audience to Members

Steve Pearl mentioned the dates to remember. He also announced that John Dottenwhy would be doing a Straw Bale Gardening Presentation at the conclusion of tonight's meeting. If we choose to stay for the presentation, we can claim 0.5 hour of education time. It needs to be categorized as "Other Training". Door Prize drawing was held.

Steve asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Robin-Elizabeth Parsley motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sarah Fenton seconded the motion. The motion passed and the business meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

John Dottenwhy did a Straw Bale Gardening Presentation after the Business Meeting.

Submitted by,

Terri Tramm
2018 HCMG Secretary