

Hendricks County Master Gardeners
Minutes of the March 21, 2017 Meeting

Call to Order and Welcome - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Becky Troutman, 2017 HCMG President.

Officer and Committee Reports:

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

Ron Stoner, Treasurer – Becky Troutman said the updated budget was on the back of the meeting agenda.

Ed Freeman, Communications Director/Gardening for All Ages (GFAA), said the 2018 Purdue Master Gardener State Conference website is in the process of being developed. It will be a sub-domain of the current website so there will not be an additional cost. He provided an update on the status of GFAA and said volunteer sign-up sheets were on the wall tonight. He said Chuck and Pat Dallas have rented booths to a lot of interesting vendors. The vendor booths are now sold out. He explained how GFAA was going to work this year. After the final presentation, the participants will tour the new Demonstration Garden. Pat Geer, GFAA Children's Booth, said if we know of anyone who can provide bug exhibits for the booth, let her know. ANR Educator Angie Tilton will check with Janet Cunningham about 4-H member bug exhibits and let Pat know. Suzy Freeman asked us to continue saving newspaper and bags. They will be needed to wrap the 500 free trees that we will be giving away. She also asked people to donate gently used items for the Gardener's Closet. Becky Troutman reminded us she will be handling the Gardener's Closet again this year and asked for donations.

Becky Troutman called Kelly Allen up and presented her with a certificate to acknowledge her twenty-year membership in the HCMG. Becky said there is a cake on the refreshment table in her honor.

Jan Myers, Co-Chair 2018 Purdue Master Gardener State Conference, said they received their first donation check for \$1,500. It was received from the Tippecanoe County Master Gardeners Association. The 2018 Purdue Master Gardener State Conference will be on June 7 – 9, 2018. We are to save those dates!

Becky Troutman said tonight is the last night to order new HCMG Shirts. We will pay for them and pick them up at next month's meeting.

Cathy Frederick, May Plant Auction Committee Chair, said the auction will be on May 16, 2017. Volunteers are to get there at 4:30. We will begin accepting plants at 4:30. Shop and Go tables will be open from 6:00 – 7:00. Short business meeting at 7:00 – 2017 scholarship recipient will be announced. Plants should include a detailed label and a picture if possible. Try to bring no more than 4 plants of each kind. Unusual plants will be included in the auction. We will be accepting cash, checks, and credit cards this year. If you are unable to be there at 4:30 the day of the sale to drop off your plants, Cathy can be there the day before from 4:30 – 5:30 with her truck to pick up plants. Flyers announcing the auction will be available at GFAA. Hope to have two or three plant digs before the sale and will need volunteers.

Debbie Kovacs, Demonstration Garden Committee Chair, said the garden layouts have been flagged. She met with Steve Patterson who approved the current layouts. Steve approved the use of an open-sided barn and electricity during our work on the gardens. Magen Eller submitted soil tests. Steve Somermeyer and John Dottenwhy agreed to do all of the tilling for our gardens. She also met with Steve Patterson to discuss the Apiary and Hendricks County Waste Management's plans to build on the Fairgrounds. She said the signage we use must be compatible with the signage on the remainder of the Fairgrounds. Terri Tramm and Jackie Rosales, Pollinator Garden Co-Chairs, provided an update on the companies who have agreed to donate native plants for the Pollinator Garden section of the Demonstration Garden. ANR Educator Angie Tilton will work with Ron

Stoner to transfer the remaining \$990 that Purdue is donating to the HCMG to use for the Demonstration Garden.

Old Business

Steve Pearl – Avon Outdoor Learning Center (OLC) Native Plant Sale – Steve reminded us that the OLC Plant Sale is scheduled for Friday, April 28, 2017 from 4:00 – 7:00 and Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 9:00 – 3:00. Setup is scheduled for Thursday, April 27, 2017 at approximately 4:00. Volunteers are needed. Sign-up sheets are available.

Steve also announced that a team from Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society (INPAWS) will be at the Avon OLC on April 8, 2017 from 9:00 – 12:00. There will be a brief invasive removal class and an invasive removal workday. Everyone will meet at the OLC Cabin. The focus will be on removing Bush Honeysuckle. Janet Cunningham will send out an e-mail with additional information.

Becky Troutman asked for additional volunteers to sign up to provide refreshments for the April meeting. She also said we still need a person to chair the Christmas Party Committee. She said Colletta Kosiba brought in the gardening insert from the Hendricks County Flyer. It had an article in it about the HCMG.

New Business

Bruce Crum said an old friend of his (a 4th Grade teacher at the school) asked for his assistance. ANR Educator Angie Tilton approved the new project. Volunteer assistance is needed to help design the layout of a 40' x 100' courtyard area and an approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ - 1 acre area by the Bethesda School. Volunteers will also provide installation instructions for planting.

Rhonda Legan offered tickets to an Herb Symposium.

Suzy Freeman reminded everyone about the Plant Geek Gathering at Damman's Lawn, Garden, and Landscaping Center this Saturday. Jo Ellen Sharp will discuss the new varieties of plants they have available this year.

Terri Tramm asked if anyone remembered who did the rain barrel presentation for our intern class. Someone said the person who did the presentation had moved. Marie Frazier said she is a part of the Hendricks Regional Health's Salute to Nursing event on Friday, May 12th and would like volunteers to do presentations to provide education to nurses. This would not only advertise the HCMG association it would show our appreciation to nurses. ANR Educator Angie Tilton suggested Marie contact Hendricks County Waste Management about a possible rain barrel presentation. She said Janet Cunningham can send out an e-mail to all HCMG members to solicit volunteers to do presentations for the nurses.

Becky Troutman went over the list of activities at the bottom of the agenda. She also announced the Native Plant Sale at Sodalis Park on April 22, 2017 from 9:00 – 12:00.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Following the break, Kelly Allen presented the program, Root Crops.

Submitted by,

Terri Tramm
2017 HCMG Secretary