

Hendricks County Master Gardeners
Minutes of the April 16, 2019 Meeting

Call to Order and Welcome - The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Steve Pearl, 2019 Hendricks County Master Gardeners (HCMG) President. He said it will be our last full meeting until September.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Steve Pearl announced that 2019 HCMG Vice President Theresa Matheison will be leaving Indiana May 1st. Becky Troutman has agreed to be the 2019 Interim Vice President.

Steve Pearl asked for the March meeting minutes to be approved as posted on the HCMG website, e-mailed earlier this month, and included on the handout at tonight's meeting. Jan Myer motioned to accept the March meeting minutes. Kathleen Hutton seconded the motion. The motion carried by a voice vote.

Joyce Karns, 2019 HCMG Treasurer, asked if there were any questions on the Treasurer's Report. There were none.

Jeff Pell, Hendricks County Agriculture and Natural Resources (HC ANR) Educator, provided an update on the 2019 HCMG Intern Class. He said that of the original twenty people who signed up for the class, eighteen will be completing the class. They have one more class session and then the final test. He asked that we look for e-mails from Janet Cunningham on how we can help with the final class session.

Veronica Mount, 2019 Communications Director, said to watch for the next newsletter. It will be coming out soon. She also asked that we continue to send her information for the newsletters. Ed Freeman, HCMG Webmaster, had nothing to announce.

Cathy Frederick, May Plant Sale and Auction Committee Chair, said the May Plant Sale and Auction will be on May 21, 2019. The Shop and Go part of the sale will begin at 6:00 pm. A short business meeting will be held at 7:00 pm. The 2019 HCMG Scholarship winner will be announced. The Auction part of the sale will begin at 7:15 pm. Cathy asked that we dig plants ahead of time so they have time to recuperate before the sale. She asked that we bring no more than four or five of each type of plant. If we have "special" plants, let them know and they can be included in the auction. Pots and labels are at the back of the room. Labeling instructions were in the March 2019 newsletter. Ann Selvy, Refreshments Committee Chair, said the auction is open to the public and lots of refreshments are needed.

Becky Troutman, Demonstration Garden Committee Chair, said we had another meeting. We are going to have a work day to install paver stones along the Entrance Garden to keep the mulch from washing out onto the sidewalk. Steve Patterson, Hendricks County Fairgrounds Executive Director, is going to add information about the Demonstration Garden to the 2019 Hendricks County Fair Program. Demonstration Garden volunteer(s) will also be in the garden during the Hoosier Horse Fair on May 4th.

Carol Gillaspay, Sheltering Wings Committee Chair, said there will be a meeting tomorrow night at 7:00 pm in Classroom A. It is important that volunteers attend as project changes will be announced.

Sara Fenton, Co-chair Education Center, said the Education Center has reopened and is located in Classroom D. It will be open on Thursdays from 9:00 – 12:00 and 1:00 – 3:45. A locking filing cabinet has been secured to store Education Center supplies. Additional volunteers are needed to cover all shifts. Volunteers will use MG Manager (under "Volunteer Opportunities") to sign up.

Jan Myers, Adventures in Gardening Co-Chair, said things are coming along and additional information will be available in May.

Colletta Kosiba, Speaker's Bureau Committee Chair and HCMG Historian, said two requests for speakers were received. One was from the ladies who dressed up as fairies at Gardening For All Ages (GFAA). The second was from another lady at GFAA. The second person is located in Broad Ripple. She wants someone to teach adults how to get children interested in gardening.

Steve Somermeyer, Gardening for All Ages (GFAA), Committee Co-chair, said we had a successful GFAA and asked Committee Chairs to provide updates. Sharon Miller announced that over 1,700 people had been greeted. Roxanne McGlone said that 600 trees were purchased and approximately 550 trees had been given away. Approximately 50 Bur Oak and Black Oak saplings were left over. Vicki Coleman was not at the meeting. Steve said that approximately 200 pounds of free seed packets had been donated and many of them were given away. Donations of \$237 were received in the Free Seeds Booth. Chuck Dallas announced that we had 52 vendors – this tied for the highest number of vendors. Vendor fees of \$2,365 were collected. There were 46 door prizes given away.

Officer and Committee Reports (continued):

(35 sources for the door prizes). Approximately 25% of the vendors were new and they want to come back again. Robin-Elizabeth Parsley said that all but four of the new books were sold. All remaining nature books were given to Carol Ford (Avon Outdoor Learning Center). Elizabeth said \$144 was made in book sales. Steve Pearl said the layout was constantly changing. Ron Stoner said between 26 and 38 people attended each of the six presentations. Becky Troutman said the Gardener's Closet was very successful this year. It brought in \$3,087.92. Ed and Suzy Freeman said the new design of the HCMG Booth worked well. They received lots of questions and eleven people signed up to indicate interest in the next intern class. Kerry Cates thanked the Children's Booth volunteers. They worked with approximately 300 children. They had about 250 plants and they ran out. She said she was amazed at how knowledgeable young children were on different topics. Steve Somermeyer said HCMG volunteers drank 80 cups of coffee and 213 bottles of water and ate 44 donuts/4 dozen donut holes/126 cookies. Overall, it was an incredibly successful GFAA.

Housekeeping Items

Steve Pearl announced that he has selected the 2019 Nominating Committee. It will consist of Sara Fenton, Rosie Lenihan, and Steve Somermeyer. He said that this has to be done by August 15th and the nominees must be announced at the September meeting. Since we will not have a full meeting again until September, he decided to select the Nominating Committee now to allow them more time to ask people to be future board members.

Steve Pearl discussed having an Open Garden. Karen Smith is going to have one this year. The Demonstration Garden and Sara Fenton might each have one. Bruce Crum said he is not going to announce a formal open garden but anyone is welcome to call him and ask for a tour.

Steve Pearl reminded everyone about the Avon Outdoor Learning Center Native Plant Sale. The setup will be on April 25th from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm. The sale will be on April 26th from 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm and on April 27th from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm.

Steve Pearl discussed the following developing projects:

- the HAWK Project – Danville Middle School is in the process of developing a community garden. Melinda Duckett, Hendricks County NEP Community Wellness Coordinator, assisted them in securing a \$3,000 grant. Hendricks County Master Gardener (HCMG) Dick Meier is helping to design the six raised beds. They will be having a cleanup day on May 15th.
- the Law Enforcement Academy (LEA) – Carrie Tauscher, Department of Natural Resources State Community & Urban Forestry Coordinator, is working with the LEA to replant a bed along the LEA building with native plants. Work days are scheduled for May 1st and May 2nd. HCMGs will not be installing the plants. HCMG volunteers will be providing education and guidance during the planting process.
- Alternative Learning Program (ALPHA) of Hendricks County – this project is in the early planning stages and has not yet received any funding. The goal is to teach those who are food challenged at home to grow their own food.

Steve Pearl reminded everyone to enter their volunteer and education hours in MG Manager. Also, MG Manager will be used a lot in the future to sign up for volunteer activities.

New Business

John Chapin – Told everyone about the Plainfield Garden Tour and asked for volunteers on June 22nd from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm and on June 23rd from 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

Steve Pearl handed out door prizes.

Steve Pearl asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Teri Mitchum motioned to adjourn the meeting. Bruce Crum seconded the motion. The motion passed and the business meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Following the break, Barth Hendrickson, presented the program, Restoring Historical Estate Grounds.

Submitted by,

Terri Tramm
2019 HCMG Secretary