

Hendricks County Master Gardeners
Minutes of the September 17, 2019 Meeting

Call to Order and Welcome - The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Steve Pearl, 2019 Hendricks County Master Gardeners (HCMG) President. The meeting was held after the evening's program – Being an Arborist for a City Government presented by Cody Flint.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Steve Pearl asked for the April meeting minutes to be approved as posted on the HCMG website and included on the handout at tonight's meeting. Sara Fenton motioned to accept the April meeting minutes. Colletta Kosiba seconded the motion. The motion carried by a voice vote.

Steve Pearl, 2019 HCMG Interim Treasurer, asked if there were any questions on the Treasurer's Report. There were none.

Steve Pearl provided the HCMG Board Report. He said the new HCMG Pesticide Policy would be as follows - "The Hendricks County Master Gardeners will not accept the donation of any Lawn or Garden Pesticide for sale or give away." Steve has asked Jeff Pell, Hendricks County Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator (ANR), if he could find a place for the HCMG to put another locking file cabinet for centralized storage. When Jeff finds a location for it, the HCMG will budget for and purchase a locking file cabinet to use for centralized storage.

Steve Pearl said Jeff Pell, ANR, is not available to provide the Educator Update tonight.

Veronica Mount, 2019 Communications Director, reminded everyone that if there is anything we want to include in the monthly newsletter, it can be sent to her at Vemount@gmail.com. Ed Freeman, HCMG Webmaster, had nothing to announce.

Colletta Kosiba, Speaker's Bureau Committee Chair and HCMG Historian, said she received one request for her to provide a presentation.

Becky Troutman, Demonstration Garden Committee Chair, said we had our first meeting after the summer in early September. She reported the raised bed gardens did not produce as much this year as last (89 pounds this year compared to 176 pounds last year). This can be attributed to getting a late start because of the wet weather this year. Drip irrigation is going to be installed in the Entrance Garden. Two raised beds will be planted in cover crops during the Adventures in Gardening/Climate for All Ages. Becky announced that she is looking for an assistant. We have lots planned for next year. A new pergola with two permanent benches will be built.

Carol Gillaspay, Sheltering Wings Project Committee Chair, said they met on May 18th. There was a good turnout from residents and children. They planted tomatoes, peppers, onions, and zucchinis. The garden was productive. Carol said the project will continue next year. Plan to have some restructuring done. The first meeting will be in January 2020. Cathy Rae asked for us to donate containers to plant the vegetables in next year. The residents do not stay long term at Sheltering Wings. If they plant their vegetables in containers, they can take them along when they leave.

Susan Gackenhaimer, Sycamore Services Project Committee Co-Chair, said they are planning a Sensory Garden. This project was started in September and is in the planning stages. They are going to build a wheelchair accessible sidewalk; a gazebo with a tin roof; and a water feature. They are going to start with bulbs. Colletta Kosiba has offered daffodils but volunteers are needed to transplant them. Jeff Pell has approved volunteer hours to dig bulbs at Colletta's house.

Vicki Coleman, Education Center Co-chair, said the Education Center reopened in April. They are planning to shut it down for the winter in a few weeks. They were open on Thursdays this year and answered thirty-five questions. They have used Classroom D this year. Jeff Pell got them a nice locking cabinet.

Jan Myers, Adventures in Gardening (AIG)/Climate for All Ages (CFAA) Co-Chair, said registration for the function ends on September 21st. Registration can be done online. Eighty-two people have registered so far. Setup is on September 27th at 1:30. Rosie Lenihan, AIG/CFAA Co-Chair, will be there on September 28th at 6:00 am. Signing in for the class begins at 7:30 am. Volunteers are needed to help clean up after the class. Steve Pearl said the only books for sale will be if the speakers bring books to sell. Sara Fenton said there will be a silent auction. There will be a meeting at her house on Thursday to put together baskets for the auction.

Officer and Committee Reports (continued):

Martha Rardin, 2019 Christmas and Awards Dinner Project Committee Co-Chair, said it will be on December 10th. Appetizers will be served at 6:30 and dinner will be served at 7:00. Rusted Silo will be the caterer again. Volunteers, entertainment ideas, a bartender, and wine/beer donations are needed.

Housekeeping Items

Steve Pearl said Kim Somermeyer is going to be selling Gardening For All Ages t-shirts. However, if anyone else wants to help with selling the t-shirts, that would be great.

Steve Pearl referred us to the back of the agenda for a list of the filled and open 2020 Chairperson positions. Kathleen Mayo volunteered to be on the Nomination Committee and Colletta Kosiba volunteered to be the Scholarship Committee contact person.

Steve Pearl reminded everyone to enter their volunteer and education hours and to sign their annual agreement in MG Manager. If you are going to move up a level, the deadline to enter hours in order to receive your new badge at the Christmas and Awards Dinner is October 31st. If you think you will be moving up a level, send Janet Cunningham an e-mail.

Steve Pearl reminded everyone to submit the reimbursement form and receipts as soon as possible so this year's books may be closed out.

New Business

The 2020 HCMG Board Nominating Committee Co-Chairs Steve Somermeyer and Jan Myers announced the nominees for the 2020 HCMG Board. The nominees are as follows:

- Steve Pearl, President
- Sara Fenton, Vice President
- Teri Mitchum, Treasurer
- Judy Kenninger, Communications Director
- Cathy Frederick, Secretary

Steve Pearl suggested the possibility of having an Assistant Treasurer and an Assistant Webmaster and the possibility of changes to the Bylaws.

Audience to Members

Becky Troutman said she attended Rhonda Legan's Celebration of Life Service. She spoke to Rhonda's son Brad. He would like some help identifying plants in Rhonda's yard. Becky is going to wait to hear back from him.

Steve Pearl handed out door prizes.

Steve Pearl asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Jeff Barnett motioned to adjourn the meeting. Robin-Elizabeth Parsley seconded the motion. The motion passed and the business meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

Terri Tramm
2019 HCMG Secretary