

Hendricks County Master Gardeners
Minutes of the November 19, 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.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Steve Pearl asked for the October 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 October meeting minutes. Kerry Cates seconded the motion. The motion carried by a voice vote.

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

Steve Pearl provided the HCMG Board Report. He went over an e-mail received from Hamilton County Master Gardeners which mentioned two opportunities for all Indiana Master Gardener associations to participate in the 2020 State Conference. The first opportunity is a statewide service project called *Growing Our Future Together*. The second opportunity is on Friday evening of the conference and is called the 2020 Block Party. He announced Suzy Freeman is ready to start taking orders for Gardening for All Ages (GFAA) t-shirts.

Jeff Pell, Hendricks County Agriculture and Natural Resources Educator, said they are accepting registrations for the January 2020 Basic Intern Class. So far, nine or ten people have registered. Fifteen people are needed to hold the class. The cost of the class is \$161. New interns must complete forty volunteer hours to become a Master Gardener. He also went over an online tutorial on MG Manager to show web based educational opportunities available online. He said you need to watch each video and take a quiz. He also said Porter County has a conference similar to Adventures in Gardening (AIG) that may be attended for educational hours.

Veronica Mount, 2019 Communications Director, said her cellular phone died and asked anyone taking pictures tonight to send them to her. Ed Freeman, HCMG Webmaster, had nothing to announce.

Becky Troutman, Demonstration Garden Committee Chair, said the last meeting for the year was held in November. She said a building permit will need to be secured next year to build the Entrance Garden pergola. She said there will not be a Demonstration Garden Committee meeting in December. Meetings will start again in January and will be on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm. She invited anyone who wants to attend future meetings to come.

Carol Gillaspay, Sheltering Wings Project Committee Chair, said there will be a meeting in January. She will have Janet Cunningham send out an e-mail.

Eloisa Garza, Plainfield Correctional Institute Committee Chair, announced the program was started eight years ago and they have been successful in meeting their goals. The graduates took ownership of the garden. There are two groups of men who are in for twenty-four more months. There are thirty more men working in the program. They put in cover crops this year which did not do well because of the weather. They produced 5,200 pounds of produce this year.

Susan Gackenheimer, Sycamore Services Project Committee Co-Chair, showed a Power Point presentation. Two Avon Life Skill classes weeded and helped to dig holes for the bulbs. Sycamore Services put in a gazebo and a sidewalk. Several people helped to dig bulbs at Colletta Kosiba's house which were planted in the Sycamore Services Annex Sensory Garden. The committee will hold a meeting in December.

Steve Somermeyer, GFAA Committee Co-Chair, said GFAA is 158 days away. They will have a meeting the second Monday of each month at 6:30 pm. The next meeting is on January 13, 2020. Subcommittees are already forming. Anyone who wants to help out can attend the meetings. Chuck and Pat Dallas are already lining up vendors. Ed and Suzy Freeman are already lining up sponsors. Suzy Freeman and Sharon Miller have order forms available tonight for GFAA t-shirts. Roxanne McGlone has already ordered the trees. They have already received donations of 144 pounds of seed packets. Becky Troutman announced she will be retiring soon and has already lined up other employees to notify her if her boss throws anything good in the dumpster. She said they will take donations for the Gardener's Closet. Sharon Miller said she is still handling the Greeting Committee but needs someone to handle things the day of GFAA as she will be out of town.

Suzy Freeman and Sharon Miller, GFAA T-shirt Committee Co-chairs announced that order forms and sample shirts (for sizes and t-shirt colors) are available tonight at the back of the room. Shirts will be ordered from Avon Sports Apparel. Long-sleeve t-shirts, short sleeve t-shirts, and hooded sweatshirts are available. Orders may be placed tonight but money will not be collected until later.

Martha Rardin, 2019 Christmas and Awards Dinner Project Committee Co-Chair, said it will be on December 10th. Appetizers will be served at 6:00 and dinner will be served at 6:30. Rusted Silo will be the caterer again. The Danville Children's Ballet

Officer and Committee Reports (continued):

will give a performance at 7:00. A memorial presentation will be held at 7:30 to honor the Master Gardeners who passed away this year. Holiday cCarols will be led by Margie Bontrager beginning at 8:00. Set up will be on December 10th at 3:00 pm. Wine and beer donations are still needed. Four volunteers are still needed for tear down. Reservations must be made by December 4th. The cost to attend is \$30 per person. The committee had a meeting before tonight's business meeting.

Deloris Elza, 2019 Christmas Tree Decorating Committee Chair, said they will be meeting on November 25th at 9:00 am to decorate the Christmas tree.

Colletta Kosiba, Historian Committee Chair, said she has been a Master Gardener since 1995. She said that GFAA started in 1985. She summarized our current projects.

Housekeeping Items

Steve Pearl said that 2020 HCMG dues will be \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. Dues will be accepted tonight by cash, check, or Pay Pal. The dues must be received by January 21, 2020 to be included in the 2020 HCMG Directory.

Steve Pearl said we are going to have a photo directory again. If you want a different picture in this year's directory or would like to add one, then send the picture to Debbie Off or Colletta Kosiba.

Steve Pearl said an AIG Committee Chair is needed as soon as possible. It is important for this Chair to be in place soon as many things must be done before the next AIG event on October 10, 2020. Steve said it is possible to have co-chairs. He also suggested using local speakers to make arranging things easier. He said if no one volunteers, then we will not have an AIG this year.

Steve Pearl reminded everyone to enter their volunteer and education hours and to sign their annual agreement in MG Manager. Your annual agreement must be signed to be in the 2020 HCMG Directory. He will send out a reminder e-mail.

Steve Pearl said if anyone is interested in taking pictures at events, then they should tell Pam Brown.

Steve Pearl said a reminder to take the Working with Minors Certification online course does not pop up in MG Manager. He said some members' certifications have expired. Fifteen additional members' certifications will expire before GFAA. The link to take the course is in MG Manager. You need to copy and paste the link in your web browser.

Steve Pearl reminded everyone that John Orick sent out a survey. If we take the survey, we will receive one hour volunteer time.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business – None

Audience to Members

Becky Troutman announced that she brought some pieces of Jade plant in and they are on a table in the back. They may be placed in dirt to root. There is a water bottle left from GFAA and a pot holder left at a meeting. She also asked for help in identifying rocks in a kit. They came unglued and she needs help identifying them.

Karen Smith announced that Jennifer Davies received the Joe Wright Recognition of Excellence Award by the Environmental Education Association of Indiana. Jennifer runs the Avon Outdoor Learning Center Program. Approximately 10,000 people a year attend OLC programs.

Bruce Crum said there are three people available to collect 2020 dues and money for the Christmas Dinner and Awards Banquet.

Steve Pearl handed out door prizes.

Steve Pearl asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Pat Dallas motioned to adjourn the meeting. Debbie Off seconded the motion. The motion passed and the business meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Tonight's speaker was a no show.

Submitted by,

Terri Tramm
2019 HCMG Secretary