



DECEMBER 2015
GARDEN GAZETTE

CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER, December 15 at 6:00pm, 4-H Meeting Room at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds. The Fall 2015 Intern Class will be our guests. This is a carry-in of your favorite Holiday snacks.

Drinks will be provided. Spouses or significant other are welcome. There will be door prizes. We will also start signing up for committees for next year.

Planning and scheduling minutes of November 17, 2015, 6:30pm, 4-H Meeting Room Wabash Valley Fairgrounds.

Educational time earned was 1.25 hours. Greg fields introduced our speaker, Jason cote who was accompanied by his wife Kathy Cote. The Cotes are from Clay city where they live on a 200 acre dairy farm they call Earth Boy Organics Farm. They have a large garden where they raise a variety of vegetables. Top soil is a concern of Jason's and to help enrich their own topsoil they have compost piles everywhere. In addition to raising vegetables they keep bees, grow mushrooms, make soap and experiment with fermentation. Jason's motto is a quote from Rudolph Steiner, "If you don't eat right, you won't think right and you won't act right." The Cotes also brought along some of their products for members to view and purchase if they wished to do so.

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Archer

Minutes: published in the Gazette. Bob asked if there were any additions or corrections. There were none and the minutes were approved as written.

Recording Secretary Carole Dreher passed around an attendance sheet.

Vice President Greg Fields said he had nothing to report.

Treasurer Pat Youman reported on financial transactions and the balance in our account.

Service Coordinator Jessica Fields asked for hours to be submitted. Some members reported having problems getting the forms to report with.

COMMITTEES:

Giving Garden: Greg Fields said that they are still harvesting turnips and have harvested and donated 27,440 pounds of produce this year. His committee has a meeting scheduled for 11/22/16 in the Floriculture Building. He said that the greenhouse now has electricity and lights.

Flower Beds: Bill Hiatt – Head Bedkeeper – said that the city parks now have their own greenhouse and we will now get our plants from them. They would like to have orders in by Christmas. Bill asked that bedkeepers prepare a plan by then. He said they have a catalog that bedkeepers can look at to see what will be available and choose what they wish to order. Bill will contact Pam LeMay to get more information. There was discussion about mulch. Patti Weaver said that the ISU Community Gardens get some from Duke Energy.

Spring Seminar: Jessica Fields announced that March 12, 2016 is the date for the seminar. They have four speakers confirmed. Flyers will be going out to organizations who have similar events. Their next meeting will be on 12-11-2015 at the Floriculture Building.

Website: Sam Ligget said that we have a bill of \$209.40 to keep our domain name for another 5 years. We also have to pay \$15.00 to keep the name. He asked for approval to pay this bill and proposed that we budget \$45.00 yearly to accrue the next 5 year payment and pay the yearly amount. There were some questions and discussion. A motion was made and seconded that we approve the payment. Motion was approved by a voice vote.

Christmas in the Park: Beth Keyes asked that volunteers meet at the Fairgrounds at 9:00am on Saturday, November 21 to pick up items to take to Deming Park where set up will take place at 10:00am and other volunteers may join at that time to help with this project. The display will be up until December 30, 2015 when they will need volunteers to help disassemble it. It was noted that the Library has chosen the same name as ours for their display.

OLD BUSINESS:

Memorial Garden – Bob presented a proposal for a memorial consisting of wrought iron fencing with plaques attached. We have six names to be attached to the memorial. Grasses would be planted behind the fencing. The park board has approved the memorial to be placed in the bed we maintain at First and Oak at the entrance to Fairbanks Park. Research is now taking place to determine the design and cost.

Susan Laitas husband and family will donate \$500 in her memory and has approved the money to go to help fund a summer intern to work at the 14th and Chestnut center.

Donuts to Park Boards, Fairground workers and Extension Office – Sam Ligget and Brenda Christianson delivered the donuts. Sam said that we received a thank you from the Extension Office.

Proposed Expenses for 2016 were presented. This was not a budget but an estimate. A motion was made, seconded and approved by voice vote to accept the proposal. Larry Agee suggested that one person be designated as a contact to send a plant to members who have lost a parent, child or spouse. Corresponding Secretary, Verna Gaskin said that she will take care of this. A basket to be taken home by the member will be sent for funerals which take place locally. In the case of an out-of-town death, flowers will be sent to the home of a member.

NEW BUSINESS:

2016 Meeting Calendar – Bob distributed copies of the proposed dates for the Board of Directors meetings and Planning and Scheduling meetings. Planning and scheduling meetings are at 6:30pm unless otherwise stated.

State 2016 MG Conference – John Orick is asking for sponsors for the 2016 State Master Gardener Conference. The minimum sponsorship amount is \$250.00. This matter will be considered further. Also persons who have never attended the Conference before are eligible to receive \$100 off their fee. This offer is good for up to 3 persons. If there is less than three members who have never attended accepting this offer, then 1 to 3 members who have attended previously may apply for this assistance. Mentor program for interns – Peggy Harlan said that she thinks a mentoring program for new interns would be a good idea and passed around a sign-up sheet so members could volunteer if they would be willing to serve as a mentor to an intern.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Abby Sweet is leaving for a new position. She said she has learned a lot working in the local Extension office.

Bob Archer suggested that persons wishing to contact him by phone should use his cell phone number (812)239-6864.

Check wvmga.org website for additional announcements.

Next Meetings:

- Board meeting January 7, 2016, Vigo County Library, 6:00pm, Room 6.
- Planning and scheduling meeting Tuesday, December 15, 2015, **6:00pm**, 4-H Meeting Room at the Wabash Valley Fairgrounds.

The meeting was adjourned with 1.25 hours of volunteer time for the 35 members in attendance. Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

The following is a list of meeting dates for 2016 for our Planning and scheduling meetings.

They will start at 6:30pm unless otherwise noted. We will meet in the 4-H Meeting Room unless otherwise noted.

January 19

February 16

March 15

April 19

May 17, 6:00pm, Ute Shelter-Deming Park, Carry In, Graduating Interns will be our guests

June TBA – Garden tour with carry in

July – no meeting

August 16

September 20, 6:00pm, Seed and plant exchange and carry-in

October 18

November 15

December 13, 6:00pm, carry in of favorite Holiday snack, Graduating Interns will be our guests

The following is a list of meeting dates for 2016 for the Board of Directors meetings. They will be at the Vigo County Public Library, 6:00pm, Room 6.

January 7

February 4

March 3

April 7

May 5

June 2

July 2

August 4

September 1

October 6

November 3

December – no Board meeting

Shirts, jackets, tote bags, etc. with our logo may be purchased at Embroidery Express located behind the mall. Items may be purchased there or you may take in your own item and get our logo embroidered on it. They have our Wabash Valley Master Gardener logo on file.

As winter weather approaches, please check your email often as cancellation of meetings will be sent out as early as possible.