



MAY 2016

GARDEN GAZETTE

Planning and Scheduling meeting for May is May 17, 2016 at **6:00pm**, at the Ute Shelter in Deming Park. **THIS WILL NOT BE A CARRY-IN.** Barbecue sandwiches, chips, cookies and drinks will be furnished by the association.

Planning and scheduling meeting minutes of April 19, 2016, 6:30pm, 4-H Meeting Room, Wabash Valley Fairgrounds. Educational time earned was 1 hour. Speaker Phil Cox was introduced by Greg Fields. Mr. Cox works in the Vermillion County Extension in Newport, Indiana. His topic was pollinators. He noted that some pollinators such as bees and monarch butterflies are in jeopardy. Petitions have been sent to wildlife services to put them on the threatened species. GMO's which make it easier to control weeds in agricultural crops are a factor in causing their habitats to disappear as is logging in Mexico which threatens the Monarch's winter habitat. One way to help is to plant more milkweed. Swamp and common milkweed are their favorites. Asters and Goldenrods are also good plants for pollinators. Mr. Cox distributed several handouts and packets of seed for plants that attract pollinators.

Meeting called to order by President Bob Archer.

MINUTES: Bob said that minutes had been published in the Gazette and asked if there were any additions or corrections. There were none, so the minutes were approved as printed.

RECORDING SECRETARY Carole passed around an attendance sheet.

VICE PRESIDENT: Greg said there would be no speaker at either the May or June meetings and that there would be no July meeting due to the Vigo County Fair. He encouraged members to help Bill Hiatt and Verna Gaskin out with their fair activities.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Verna checked to see if everyone was receiving emails and The Gazette. She said that she has been experiencing computer problems and is having her computer repaired.

TREASURER: Pat Youman reported on income and expenses over the past month and listed the balance in our account.

SERVICE COORDINATOR: Jessica said that the next badge order will be placed in June.

COMMITTEES:

GIVING GARDEN: Greg said that his Horticulture Class students had planted some blueberry plants. We are having some problems with our passive solar heat in the greenhouse and as a result, have lost some cabbage plants. They went ahead and used some of Jessica Fields cabbage plants that she was planning to use for her giveaway project. Some children toured the garden and planned to plant some seeds.

SPRING SEMINAR: Jessica said we are still waiting for one sponsor to send in their money. We had a profit of \$1,300, comparable to what we have made in the past. Jessica thanked all of the volunteers who make this happen.

WEBSITE: Sam Ligget said that he has entered the constitution and by-laws exactly as written with amendments attached to the bottom of the documents. Discussion ensued about the Constitution and by-laws and where the official copies should reside.

FAIR COMMITTEE: Bill Hiatt said that he is planning to call a meeting of this committee in May. We need to have trinkets and/or decorations for stepping stones. Ruth Johnson asked for donation of glass containers suitable to be used as vases for our flower arranging project. Bottles should have narrow necks and labels should be removed.

OLD BUSINESS:

FLOWER BEDS: Bill Hiatt Head Bedkeeper.

Butterfly Garden – a work day is scheduled for Friday, April 22 for cleanup. We did not get the grant that we had applied for.

Hawthorne Park: The Park Department has decided to just mow the area this year that we had tended in the past.

Raised bed at ISU Community Garden: Patti and Jim Weaver are working on this project.

MATTER IN MOTION: Sharon Polge reported that this activity went well. She had plenty of volunteers and the children seemed to enjoy making the pinecone birdfeeders.

EARTH DAY AT SMWC: Pat Youman reported that we made \$375 at this event. She considered it to be successful. Connie Cooper had worked at the event and she too thought that it was successful endeavor. The Herb Society is willing to purchase remaining herbs from our organization for the Herb Fair.

THREE NEW PROJECTS: Bob sent a proposed layout with a suggested list of plants to the Masonic Temple who had requested help.

Patti Weaver was supposed to have met with Greg Archer who had requested help with a faith based project but has not been able to make much progress.

NEW BUSINESS:

Announcements:

- Greg Fields said that Jessica needs bags and boxes for her giveaway project will take place at the Fairgrounds on April 30th.
- Verna Gaskin said that she had some copies of the Open Class Books for the Vigo County Fair in July.
- Yvonne Russell said that she had two new Master Gardener signs.

NEXT MEETINGS:

- Board meeting May 5, 2016, Vigo County Public Library, 6:00pm Room 6.
- Planning and Scheduling meeting May 17, 2017, **6:00pm**, Ute Shelter, Deming Park with a light meal provided. (**not a carry-in**)

Respectfully submitted by Carole Dreher, Recording Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES
May 5, 2016
Vigo County Public Library, Room 6

PRESIDENT Bob Archer called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and introduced the new Purdue Educator, Dana Gadeken. She said a few things about her background.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Bob Archer, Carole Dreher, Verna Gaskin, Larry Agee and Phil Small.

NON BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dana Gadeken (Purdue Educator)

MINUTES OF LASGT BOARD MEETING: Carole said that they had been published in the Gazette. Bob called for additions or corrections. There were none so the minutes stand as published.

VICE PRESIDENT: Greg was not present. Members discussed the upcoming May meeting which is scheduled to be held in Deming Park. In the past this has included a carry-in meal in honor of Spring Interns. However, there was not a class this year so there will be no interns. There was a question about whether we should have a meal since we will also have one in June after our Garden tour and also because we do not have a chairperson to head up a committee to coordinate a meal. It was decided that we would have a simple meal this year consisting of barbecue sandwiches, chips and drinks. Verna volunteered to take care of the sandwiches. Since we usually do not have a speaker at this meeting, Bob invited Dana to come and introduce herself to members and suggested that she also bring some other persons from the Extension Staff so they could introduce themselves and describe their responsibilities.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Verna said she had nothing to report.

TREASURER: Pat was not present due to family activities and Assistant Treasurer Carl Trent also was not present so there was no treasurer report.

SERVICE COORDINATOR: Jessica was not present because of IVY-Tech graduation. Bob said he thought she would be submitting a badge order soon.

GIVING GARDEN: Greg not present due to IVY-Tech graduation. He is on the staff there.

FLOWERBEDS: No report.

WEBSITE: No report.

PUBLICITY: No report

GARDEN TOUR: Verna was asked if she knew what gardens we would be touring. She said she thought that Bill had 2 gardens to tour and that another had been suggested, but no one knew which ones they were.

FALL INTERN CLASSES: There was discussion about this class, in part for Dana's benefit so she could be aware of our needs and, perhaps what we might need from her. We think these classes will take place on Tuesday mornings. There will be twelve 3 hour classes and a thirteenth class for a final test. Classes should be finished before Thanksgiving. Master Gardeners try to have volunteers on hand to help facilitate the classes.

Discussion ensued about who might teach the classes. Greg had previously suggested that he might have to teach them or get guest lecturers.

OLD BUSINESS:

BED KEEPERS REPORTS:

- 1st & Oak – this bed needs to be mulched. The Parks Board has requested that we try to have this bed ready prior to a May event in the park. There was discussion about what plants we should plant in this bed. Some plants do not thrive here during a dry spell.

- Susan Laitas Memorial/Memorial Fence – Bob said that materials have been purchased to erect the fence. There was a discussion about what information we should put on the plaques besides the person’s name. Since it would take some time to determine the length of time that an honoree was active with the Master Gardeners and might have had a lapse due to illness, it was suggested that we put “Class of XXXX” with XXX indicating the year the person took their intern training.

MINORS CERTIFICATION – We would like to have information about members who have completed this certification.

HERB FAIR: This event will take place at the Fairgrounds on May 7th. Verna said we will set up at 1:00pm on Friday, May 6th. Bob will bring hanging plants.

NEW BUSINESS:

Connie Cooper has offered to represent the Wabash Valley Master Gardeners at an affair in Marshall, Illinois, that we have been invited to participate in. There was discussion about what should be done. It was generally determined that it would be okay to participate in events if we could sell something but not to recruit members. If we have anything left over from the Herb Fair we might consider selling them there. Bob volunteered to call the person who sent the invitation to see what they may have expected from us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Bob Archer said that he would be working on a schedule of meeting places, dates and times. He noted that there would be no meeting in July due to the Vigo County Fair taking place that month. This led to a general discussion about ownership of the fairgrounds and responsibilities for use of the facilities.

Check wvmga.org website for announcements.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be at the Vigo County Public Library on 6/02/2016 at 6:00pm.

Next Planning and scheduling meeting at Deming Park on 5/17/2016 at 6:00pm with a simple meal.

Meeting adjourned after 1 hour volunteer time.

Minutes submitted by Recording Secretary, Carol Dreher

Hello Wabash Valley Master Gardeners,

I am so honored to start my journey through Purdue Extension with such an empowered and active group as the Wabash Valley Master Gardeners. The community involvement and enthusiasm demonstrated by your group was one of the reasons that I was so excited to apply for the position as Agricultural and Natural Resource Educator in Vigo County. I grew up in Alexandria, VA and loved helping my mother with small landscaping and container gardening projects around the house. After going to school at the University of Mary Washington and South Dakota State University my interests shifted to agriculture, leading me to get my MS in Dairy Nutrition. This interest has lead me on some exciting adventures, all of which I am sure I will share with you all in time. Thank you for welcoming me aboard, and I am looking forward to working with you in the future.

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