

Master Gardener Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

4.8.2020	07:00PM	Master Gardener Steering Committee Meeting Location: Johnson Co. Extension -WebEx Virtual meeting
Attendees	(17/23 Quorum-Yes) Present: Joan Dinnel, Barb Krug, Jackie Wellborn, Beth Fisher, Doug Geraets, Carolyn Murphy, Mike Murphy, Alice Linhart, Ann Tvedte, Linda Schreiber, Chris Sedrel, Sharon Jeter, Jean Holzhammer, Darlene Clausen, Lavon Yeggy, Vickie Siefers, Emil Rinderspacher Not Present: Esther Retish, Cindy Parsons, Michael Hesseltine, Barb Schintler, Melanie Hauptert, Pat Kealy, Betty Kelly, Joanne Leach, Marilou Gay Others Present: Shannon Bielicke	
Secretary's Report:		
Minutes from last meeting approval. Available online.		
Treasurer's Report:		
Report: Jean Holzhammer– Plum Grove: \$11,257.02 Balance General: \$1,809.53 Balance Butterfly Garden: \$2,397.87 Balance Reimbursement Requests: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Emil will work on submitting a requests for label stakes bought for the plant sale at a later time.		
Old Business		
Discussion	None at this time.	
Discussion	Upcoming events	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">None at this time.		
New Business		
Discussion	Additional Notes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Parameters for working on garden projects. BE EXTRA CAREFUL and AWARE. No more than 10 people that can stay 6 feet apart. Most gardens are not big enough for 10 people to stay that far apart so 1-3 people is a better guideline. Coordinate with each other on who will be where when so that you don't bump into each other. Make sure you are communicating with the project leader so they can let others know when you will be in the garden. Use your own tools. Do not share and make sure to wipe things down. Wear masks especially if you could be potentially crossing paths with someone. Be aware and considerate of others. Stay home if you are sick. And do not feel obligate to volunteer. You don't know all of who they are in contact with in their lives and we want to do our best to keep everyone safe.		

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Discussion	Additional Notes:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension updates-Schools are out until April 30, No ISU & ISU Extension large group events through May 31. This could go shorter or longer depending on how things develop. The County Fair is still happening as of now with restrictions on face-to-face preparation event leading up to the fair including weigh ins and extension of deadlines for things such as Animal IDs. They are being proactive to make plans for alternative options in the case that the status of the fair changes as it gets closer. • Shannon, Darlene, Beth, & Carolyn will be working on a Sign Up Genius online sign up form for the Core Projects. It will gather names of JCMGs that are interested in getting more information about specific projects. • The ISU Master Gardener department in Ames emails out a good newsletter. If you would like to receive this newsletter and don't already sign up can be found at https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mastergardener/newsletter-archive where there is a sign up spot on the left side of the webpage or contact Shannon bielicke@iastate.edu and she can update that option in the reporting online system. • It was recommended that if you are growing produce to consider donating to food pantries or shelters however check with them first to see if they are accepting your items. • The National Center for Home Food Preservation https://nchfp.uga.edu/ is a good resource for canning and food preservation it was a webpage recommended to Shannon by our former Nutrition Specialist Rachel Wall. You can also find good resources for receipts at the Spend Smart Eat Smart webpage https://spendsmart.extension.iastate.edu/. • Lavon and a small group of Steering Members will be coordinating to call the new interns and first year master gardeners to check in with them. • Linda shared that the Iowa City Farmers Market is aiming to open June 6. Visit this webpage for more information https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/IAIOWA/bulletins/2842aa5 • Ann reminded everyone to report their hours even if you are doing things out of the ordinary and not the normal garden work. You can count your hours for planning and working on new ideas for future use in the projects.
Discussion	Date for Next Meeting: May 13, 2020 or as schedule allows.
Discussion	Thymes Deadline: April 24, 2020

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Committee Reports

Attended Displays: Chris Sedrel, Jackie Wellborn- Jackie has joined Chris to lead the attended displays and would like to continue working on organizing printed materials.

Butterfly House at Fairgrounds: Carolyn Murphy, Mike Murphy – On hold and waiting for information about the status of county fair.

Coralville Historical School House: Cindy Parsons, **Recruiting new co-leadership.** - No Additional Report.

Ecumenical Towers: Michael Hesseltine, **Recruiting new co-leadership.** - No Additional Report.

Demo Garden: Sharon Jeter – Nothing started yet, but emails will go out to plan for clean up coordinating safely. Plants were planted in June last year so there is still time. Sharon is also selling house plants for JCMG fundraising.

Downtown City Gardens: Linda Schreiber- Doing on online Seed Share where JCMGs can place an order for seeds from her collection and packets are coordinated for pick up outside the Johnson County Extension office.

Fairgrounds Beautification:

- *Rain Garden* - Lavon Yeggy – Will work on coordinating 2-3 people at a time to go out to work safely.
- *Fair Grounds Flower Beds* - Joan Dinnel, Barb Krug- Not started at the fairgrounds but are making plans to start and have plenty of room to stay in separate areas. Waiting for the Sun.

Firefighters' Memorial: Barb Schintler- No Additional Report.

Fundraising/Flea Market: Emil Rinderspacher, Darlene Clausen- Thoughts were discussed on a possible Fall Plant Sale/Flea Market that could focus more on bulbs and fall plant material, more crafts and flea market items, or plant swap fundraiser. It was put up for discussion that the available budget could be considered and compared to the possibilities that gardens will have less expenses this year and that maybe a large fundraiser for the public might not be needed. Maybe something smaller for the JCMGs and their close friends might be better time spent. This will all be considered further at a later date.

Hortline: - Esther Retish, Pat Kealey– No Additional Report.

Hospice Garden /Willow Creek Park: Melanie Hauptert- No Additional Report.

Steering Committee Chairs: Sharon Jeter, Doug Geraets- No Additional Report.

JCMG Educational Training: Linda Schreiber, Jackie Wellborn - No Additional Report.

Memorial Garden: Lavon Yeggy, Doug Geraets- No Additional Report.

Johnson County Fair / 4 - H Buckets of Flowers, Scarecrow: Lavon Yeggy & Vicki Seifer- No Additional Report.

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Oaknoll Garden Project: Vicki Siefers, Deb Cassell – Everything has been cancelled and Master Gardeners have been contacted to let them know that they are unable to work in the Oaknoll gardens at this time. It was encouraged that they call or write to the residents to help with a sense of connection.

Plum Grove: Lavon Yeggy, Carolyn Murphy, Darlene Clausen, Betty Kelly, Joanne Leach- Darlene and Carolyn have composed an email to the JCMGs that help in these gardens with update on how things will proceed. That email will be shared with the steering committee so others can use it as an example for other correspondence in their gardens.

- **Plum Grove Clean Up** April 18, 9-Noon CANCELLED but reevaluating and corresponding on individuals being able to get in the gardens to maintain them.
- **Plum Grove Taste of the Heritage Garden Event** July 8 CANCELLED
- **Plum Grove Tomato Taste Event** August 30 CANCELLED

Raptor Center Gardens: - Alice Linhart, Ann Tvedte – The Raptor Center is closed. The garden guides and lists of plants have been completed. There is mostly perennials and butterflies and the butterflies are probably enjoying the quiet. ☺

Speakers Bureau: Jackie Wellborn- Has reached out to some folks to keep correspondence going in case opportunities open up.

Social Events: –Beth Fisher, Lavon Yeggy- Everything has been cancelled but hopefully will be able to have a Potluck in the Fall. Linda shared some information from the Bylaws that included the intentions of having a Fall/Winter potluck. Good to plan and think of the future.

Thymes: Doug Geraets, Melissa Serenda- Keep working to get the Thymes out by the first of the Month and Melissa is helping with the calendar.

Treasurer: Jean Holzhammer- Recommendation was to reevaluate the budget closer to July to be able to compare expenses versus need of fundraising. Please be cautious and frugal of your spending and repurpose as needed.

Volunteer Hours/Secretary/Fall Training Course: Shannon Biellicke- Yes, we are still making plans for a 2020 Fall Master Gardener training course. Please encourage potential Master Gardeners to sign up on the state webpage. Information can be found at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/johnson/news/how-become-johnson-county-master-gardener> . Depending on the status of things this Fall the program may moved to a fully online program rather than part online and part face-to-face however we will try to still have a quality program and adapt as the time comes. If they sign up on the state webpage they are not obligated to participate. It just gets me their information so I can keep them informed once time gets closer.

Submitted by Shannon Biellicke, meeting was from about 6:45-8:30pm