Master Gardener Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

10.13.2021 07:00PM  Master Gardener Steering Committee Meeting  
Location: Johnson Co. Extension -Zoom Virtual meeting

**Attendees**  
(12/23 Quorum-Yes) Present: Sharon Jeter, Doug Geraets, Darlene Clausen, Beth Fisher, Linda Schreiber, Chris Sedrel, Emil Rinderspachner, Esther Retish, Jean Holzhammer, Melissa Serenda, Doug Parsons, Michael Hesseltine  
Not Present: Cindy Parsons, Barb Schintler, Melanie Haupert, Lavon Yeggy, Ann Ruppenkamp, Vickie Siefers, Ann Tvedte, Carolyn Murphy, Mike Murphy, Alice Linhart, Jackie Wellborn,  
Others Present: Shannon Bielicke, Laurie Canady, Mary & Carl Hensley  
Others Not Present: Betty Kelly, Joanne Leach, Marilou Gay, Amanda Baker

**Secretary’s Report:**

Minutes from last meeting approval. Unanimously approved.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Report: Jean Holzhammer–  
Plum Grove: $1,249.27 Balance  
General: $8,797.92 Balance  
Butterfly Garden: $2,167.04 Balance

**Reimbursement Requests/Expenses:**  
- Darlene Clausen, reimbursement request $192.52, JCMG General funds, Plum Grove Garden signage.  
- Michael Hesseltine, reimbursement request $34.99, JCMG General funds, Ecumenical Towers plant.  

**Donations/Income:**  
- Donation on behalf of Linda Schreiber, $100 from Sandra Shasby.  
- Cut Flower Fundraiser $556+ raised.  
- Melissa Mandernach says Thank you for the mini pumpkins donated from the Demo garden for use with Pick a Better Snack.

**Business**

**Discussion**

- Shannon is working on some Fall Class ideas.  
- Split thoughts on in-person vs. Zoom meetings so we will stick with Zoom for now.  
- Project Reviews, Fall get together, and 40th Anniversary are all topics that will be discussed further in the future.  
- The bylaws schedule will be reviewed to double check if we are on track.
**Additional Notes:**

- Jingle Cross is October 15-17, 2021 on the Fairgrounds.
- Reminder to project leaders to start working on their yearend Annual Project Reports.
- A Houseplant Propagation and Care program is scheduled for Oct. 19, 5:30pm. Melissa and Linda worked together to organize it, presenters were recruited, and Jackie (speakers bureau) was consulted. It will take place in the open-air bunny breezeway space on the fairgrounds and weather is predicted to be good. Free donations will be accepted and in turn participants will be able to take plants home. The Press-Citizen will have an article this weekend.
- Laurie is working with Shelter House to determine commitment parameters and class need. Shannon is helping to facilitate discussions.
- Doug reported on the Weatherby park tree planting. It went well with 34 JCMG volunteers that helped. The City prepped the holes. It was dry but that helped. Mark Vitosch did a training. And the City followed behind to mulch, add supports, & water.
- Doug and Linda made efforts to follow up on partnerships/assistance requests
  - Mercy of Iowa City- Linda advised and helped with the care of Roses. The Downtown volunteers helped clean them up.
  - TRAIL of Johnson Co. (garden assistance) & Table to Table (gleaning help) were mentioned in the Thymes to recruit help. Individuals could volunteer for other hours.
  - Arc of Johnson County request was forwarded to Speakers Bureau.
  - Johnson County Food policy council request for a garden too library. Contact was made and they are working with Restore (Salvage Barn).
  - Mary H. asked how we determine what requests are taken. Linda explained that consideration of time commitment and how it contributes to giving back to the community (Nonprofit). In future we can review further considerations of time, resources, & evaluation of requests including 1-time requests vs. on going requests, liability, & manual labor commitment.

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<th>Discussion</th>
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<td>Discussion</td>
<td>Thymes Deadline: November 26, 2021</td>
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**Committee Reports**

**Attended Displays:** Chris Sedrel, Jackie Wellborn- No additional

**Butterfly House at Fairgrounds:** Carolyn Murphy, Mike Murphy – No additional

**Coralville Historical School House:** Cindy Parsons, Doug Parsons – Doug says the gardens are looking good.

**Demo Garden:** Sharon Jeter, Ann Ruppenkamp, Chris Sedrel – Sharon is stepping back from leadership of the Demo garden but is still willing to help. Chris says that there are some changes being made in the Demo garden including removing some raised beds and adjustments to the rock wall. They are planning to plant cut flowers for a bouquet sale again next year. A new sign is in the works for the Demo garden in an effort to better promote the JCMGs.
Downtown City Gardens: Linda Schreiber- No additional report.

Ecumenical Towers: Michael Hesseltine, Recruiting new co-leadership. – A month ago, they did a major clean up & Michael followed up by removing debris piles produced by the resident helper. A clean up has been scheduled for Oct. 24 for some more mulching to be done. He will be submitting a receipt for reimbursement for mulch and will find and plant a new shrub soon. Will dig up & over winter the Dahlias.

Fairgrounds Beautification:
Rain Garden - Lavon Yeggy – Chris says that the raingarden is looking the best it has and they are removing seed heads.
Fair Grounds Flower Beds – Recruiting new co-leadership. – Chris says fairgrounds are in good shape. Some extra Cannas have been dug up. Horse hill and between B & C are cleaned up.

Firefighters' Memorial: Barb Schintler- No additional report.

Fundraising/Flea Market: Emil Rinderspacher, Darlene Clausen- Emil will email JCMGs to see who can donate & what is available for the sale. Please contact him if you have items to donate. He will call a short list first of folks that have donated in the past and then follow up with the larger group as a whole.

Hortline: - Esther Retish– Hortline is going well. Next month (Nov.) they will be switching to Wednesdays. Mary Starry’s Hortline quizzes have been a good addition to the Thymes.

Hospice Garden /Willow Creek Park: Melanie Haupert- No additional report.

Steering Committee Chairs: Sharon Jeter, Doug Geraets- No additional report.

JCMG Educational Training: Linda Schreiber, Jackie Wellborn, Doug Geraets – 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.

Oaknoll Garden Project: Vicki Siefers, Deb Cassell – No additional report.

Plum Grove:  Lavon Yeggy, Carolyn Murphy, Darlene Clausen, Betty Kelly, Joanne Leach- Darlene says the Plum Grove vegetables are wrapping up. They are planning a November work session to replace fence and will need help. 150lbs. of produce was donated to the CommUnity Food Bank. They are making plans for next year to grow cut flowers for events & sale.
**Raptor Center Gardens**: Ann Tvedte, Alice Linhart-- Alice emailed that they will be harvesting milkweed seed pods at the raptor center and extended an invite for folks to come help.

**Speakers Bureau**: Jackie Wellborn-- No additional report.

**Social Events**: Beth Fisher, Lavon Yeggy-- No additional report.

**Thymes**: Doug Geraets, Melissa Serenda-- No additional report.

**Treasurer**: Jean Holzhammer-- No additional report.

**Volunteer Hours/Secretary/Fall Training Course**: Shannon Bielicke-- No additional report.

**Submitted by Shannon Bielicke**, meeting was from about 7-8:30pm.