

JCMG Steering Committee Meeting Agenda
Aug. 10, 2022

1. Call to order
2. Approval of Prior Meeting (June 8) Minutes
3. Treasurer's Report (Jean)
 - General Fund: **\$23,382.67**
 - Plum Grove: **\$1,741.22**
 - Butterfly House: **\$3,785.41**
 - New or Known Pending Receipts:
 - *Expense:* Michael Hesseltine, MG General, Ecumenical Towers, Mulch, \$82.68
 - *Expense:* Forever Green, Lucy Hershberger, MG Butterfly House, Butterflies, \$1,509.50
 - *Expense:* Carolyn Murphy, MG Butterfly House, Fair supplies, \$18.48 AND MG Plum Grove, Betty Kelly plaque and glue to attach plaque to bench, \$43.94
=Total \$62.42
 - *Expense:* Linda Schreiber, MG Plum Grove, Plum Grove Heritage Party, Corn Salad supplies, \$9.54
 - Additional income which will show on reports next month.
 - *Income:* MG Butterfly House, Butterfly House county fair income, \$1,890.41
 - *Income:* MG Plum Grove, Plum Grove Heritage Party, \$978
4. Review of JCMG Steering Committee Meeting Calendar
 - **September**
 - Plan fundraising for upcoming year
 - Finalize dates for MG activities in the coming year, create JCMG event bookmark
 - Fall Harvest Social & Potluck (September or October)
 - **October**
 - Nominate steering committee officers
 - Develop fiscal budget with project leaders
 - Review Bylaws
5. Extension Report/Announcements (Shannon)
6. Old Business
 - Iowa Raptor Project
 - Plant Sale & Flea Market financial wrap-up and survey
7. New Business
 - Flea Market donations from MG Sherlyn Flesher
8. Project Reports

9. Administrative Reports

10. Adjourn

- Date of Next Meeting: **Sept. 14**
- Thymes Newsletter Deadline: **Wednesday, Sept. 28**

Project Reports

- **Attend Displays** – During the Johnson County Fair 34 volunteers helped at the Attended Displays table. We handed out much information from ISU brochures on gardening and during the four days of the fair we answered many questions and the weather was terrific. Kay Mohling has stepped up & agreed to be a Co-Leader for Attended Displays (Yay!!).
- **Butterfly House** –
 - Training class was held on Saturday, July 23. Seventeen master gardener volunteers attended the class. Carolyn Murphy & Lucy Hershberger gave instructions on how we would operate the house and outside exhibits. We talked about the 10 varieties of native butterflies in the house, showed how to handle the monarch butterflies, their habitat in the Midwest and migration route. We talked about the addition of the Polyphemus moths that were being added to the exhibit.
 - 6,200 people attended the exhibit over the 4 days. Monarch Release on Wednesday, July 27 at 5 P.M. Released about 100 monarchs with a large crowd of speculators and master gardeners present. 39 Master Gardeners, Lucy & 2 of her staff, = 42 people staffed the 4-day event. Note: This was the smallest MG crew I had worked with but the most unified group. They helped setup, take down and worked together. People covered multiple shifts when needed.
 - Merchandise Sales – butterfly items, henna by Mahmooda, & tattoos = \$1,579. Free-will Donations = \$311.41. Deposited into Butterfly House account = \$1,890.41. Bills: Cost of butterflies– Michigan Native Butterfly Farm (10 native varieties) = \$1,509.50
 - Supplies – we are still submitting bills currently. Repairs include Millie the caterpillar tunnel needing a face lift and body repairs. We are brainstorming ideas to connect the hoops (structure) to a material that will fold up. This will make it easier to setup/take down. I will start restocking merchandise that we sold out of this year.
 - Represented Johnson County Master Gardeners July 9th at Monarch Festival, Indian Creek Nature Center. Carolyn & Angela Murphy partnered with Milkweed Matters to provide pollinator education & a seedball activity. We gave out ISU educational material and talked to visitors about monarch butterflies. Around 1000 in attendance.
- **Coralville Historical Schoolhouse** – no report
- **Ecumenical Towers** – Michael reports a mid-summer clean-up day was held last weekend. Only one person on his email list showed up. He believes this was poor timing as the Johnson County Fair was in progress. John Weeg and he worked to do a lot of clean up and spread mulch to protect against the August heat to come. The beds are looking really good! GOOD NEWS: John Weeg has expressed interest in becoming co-leader of ET! Once John officially joins as co-leader we will begin doing some more interesting and involved updates to the site. We will work with the facility leadership and residents to ensure we collaborating.

- **Demo Garden** – Work sessions continue to be **Tuesdays at 5 p.m.** We will be installing a push button lock for the shed and hangers to organize stored items. Cucumbers, tomatoes and peppers are coming on now. We are harvesting and will begin planting some late crops (beets, green or wax beans) this past week. Cut flower bouquets will be sold this Sunday, Aug. 14 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at the Garden.
- **Downtown City Projects** - walking tour/open house: Heat that was expected last week didn't materialize. Instead of working, we dodged raindrops and led colleagues on a walking tour/open house of the downtown gardens. MG guests learned the history, how the project has evolved and about the redesign efforts.
 - A special highlight on the tour was a stop at Ecumenical Tower Gardens to learn about the vision for the gardens. The tour was led by John Weeg for a vacationing Michael Hesseltine.
 - Another feature of the downtown walking tour/open house was a peek at University of Iowa arborist Andy Dahl's special conifer garden on the east side of Halsey Gym.
 - Though the turnout wasn't very big, it was a great opportunity for MG to learn about Downtown City Gardens. MG are encouraged to hop on the walking tour/open house next year.
- **Fairgrounds Landscaping** –
 - Rain Garden: Doing well with annuals coming up & over 7 different flowering plants: spiderwort, salvia hyssop, golden alexander, blue flag iris, and others. We will be expanding stone pathways soon.
 - Fairgrounds Flower Beds
- **Firefighters Memorial** – no report
- **Plant Sale & Flea Market** – Emil is working on Plant Sale final report with plans to have it for September meeting. Project GREEN has donated their pots to us and one load has been moved and stored in Demo Garden shed. Emil will need help with another load and the inventory.
- **Hortline** – no report
- **Hospice Garden at Willow Creek** – no report
- **JC Fair/4-H Buckets of Flowers & Scarecrow** – no report
- **Oaknoll Garden Project** – no report
- **Plum Grove** –
 - Project Green City Wide Garden Tours, July 9 & 10 (PG event) 24 people signed the guest list left on the bench for self-guided tour of the gardens. Alex McKendree, director of JC Historical Society, had 67 people sign the book in the house.
 - Taste of the Heritage Garden celebrated 25th anniversary, July 13. It was also a time to remember Betty Kelly's accomplishments. The Kelly family donated a cedar garden bench which has been placed by Grandma's Flower & Rose Garden. A plaque was made by Harry's Trophy in memory of Betty and per her family, they would use to continue the tradition of adding names of those that pass to the bench. Paying guests (145), Post Office Brass Band (5 members), and JC Master Gardeners (62) participating in the Taste of the Heirloom Garden & Remembering Betty Kelly. A total of 81 cookbooks which included a section on Betty Kelly & Plum Grove history were sold. Collected a total of \$978 (Included

two generous donations). The Post Office Brass Band was given a donation of \$150.00 for playing at the event.

- **Raptor Center Gardens** – Email to Ryan Anthony, Director of Iowa Raptor Project drafted and sent indicating we will de-certify Project from our approved projects list.
- **Speakers Bureau** - no report
- **Thymes** – no report; Thymes Blog – July stats: 161 views by 84 visitors. 3 posts published.