

JCMG Steering Committee

Wednesday, June 8, 2022 at 6:30 P.M., Hybrid Meeting

Minutes

1. Call to order at 6:35 P.M. (12/23 Quorum-No)

Present: Doug Geraets, Darlene Clausen, Linda Schreiber, Chris Sedrel, Esther Retish, Carolyn Murphy, Mike Murphy, Jackie Wellborn, Melissa Serenda, Beth Fisher, Ann Tvedte, Lavon Yeggy

Absent: Cindy Parsons, Barb Schintler, Melanie Hauptert, Alice Linhart, Doug Parsons, Michael Hesseltine, Megan Garrels, Vicki Siefers, Deb Cassell, Sharon Jeter, Marilou Gay, Joanne Leach

Others Present: Shannon Bielicke, Laurie Canady Mary Hensley, Carl Hensley, Amanda Baker, Barb Robinson

2. Approval of May 2022 meeting minutes – Amanda Baker's name corrected; Unanimously approved

3. Treasurer's Report

- a. General Fund: \$24,055.20
- b. Plum Grove: \$1032.52
- c. Butterfly House: \$3792.04
- d. New or Known Pending Receipts:
 - Barb Robinson: MG Plum Grove Gardens, Flagstone, \$38.88
 - Doug Geraets: MG General, Plant Sale, Coat Check tickets (used for holding area), \$14.51
 - City of Iowa City: MG General, Downtown City Gardens, Plants, \$425.67
 - Carolyn Murphy: MG Butterfly House, Table Cloths, \$6.63
 - MG Plum Grove Gardens, Plants & Mulch, \$80.42
 - MG Plum Grove Gardens, New compost signs to replace those damaged by lawn mowers, \$62.22 (total of \$149.27)
 - Mike Murphy: •MG Plum Grove Gardens, Materials to repair fence damaged by lawn mowers, \$65.39

- Chris Sedrel: MG General Demo Garden, Plants, Topsoil Compost, Seeds, Food Grade Pails, Mower Parts, \$224.04; Fairgrounds Flowerbeds Seeds \$30.38 (total of \$254.42)
- e. Chris Sedrel: MG General Demo Garden, request for additional funds for Demo Garden. An additional \$200 was approved (Total budget \$400.00)

4. Review of JCMG Steering Committee Calendar

- a. Wednesday, July 13 Taste of Heritage Garden at Plum Grove
- b. Johnson County Fair, July 24-27
- c. Plum Grove Tomato Taste
- d. October, prep for fall harvest meeting and potluck (maybe outside or catered)

5. Extension Report/Announcements

- a. Fall MG training applications are now open and posted on the JCMG Facebook page. There will be 4 face to face classes and the rest will be online.
- b. Name tags for interns and MG awards arrived today.
- c. Fair Board request list: Shannon is working with the Fair Board to develop an MOU (memorandum of understanding) between the Fair Board and JC Extension to clarify rules of equipment use, etc.
- d. Demo Garden storage shed update: The shed has been delivered to Menards and will be picked up tomorrow along with paint. Red with white trim was approved.

6. Old business

7. New Business

- a. Approved projects leader/co-leader requests: Doug will send an e-mail with details requesting volunteers.
- b. Approval of Fair Award Sponsorships (Shannon): \$350.00 from the General Fund was approved for Buckets of Flowers and Scarecrow awards.
- c. Taste of the Heritage Gardens (Carolyn & Beth): July 13, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. at Plum Grove (alternate rain location, Extension Office). Food must arrive by 5 p.m.. The menu is set and flyers will go out in email soon along with requests for volunteers (19 cooks, parking, flowers, etc). There will be fewer dishes this year as much of the recipe book will be dedicated to Betty Kelley's Plum

Grove legacy. Shannon is working to get tables and chairs donated by the Fair Board. Doug will arrange to transport tables and chairs from the fairgrounds and set up at Plum Grove. Carolyn requested a check to pay The Old Post Office Brass Band. \$150 from the MG Plum Grove account was approved.

8. Project Updates:

- a. Attended displays: Carolyn & Mike Murphy partnered with 100 grannies at the ABC Children's Day of Art Festival with a pollinator display including an activity to make milkweed seed balls.
- b. Fairgrounds Landscaping: 1 hour of weeding and dead-heading was completed today and volunteers plan to meet again on Friday. The Rain Garden is looking good.
- c. Raptor Center Gardens: It may be time to de-certify the project. The current caretakers don't seem to be interested in our help.
- d. Speakers Bureau: We will be at Ashton House June 15 for Iowa City Day Camp 1st-6th graders. Dorothy Fowles will present on flower arranging to Atrium Village clients.

9. Administrative Reports

- a. MG Continuing Education: Dates for 2023: March 5th (alternate date March 19th).

10. Other announcements (Beth) – Check ICPL.org/calendar:

- a. Sat. June 11 at 9:00 am: Explore Johnson County Historic Poor Farm
- b. Wed. June 15 at 7:00 P.M. in Meeting Rm. A: Prairie Plants for Perennial Gardening by Tyler Baird.

11. Adjourned at 7:45 P.M.

- a. Date of next meeting: Wednesday, August 10 at 6:30 P.M. (Hybrid)
- b. Thymes Newsletter Deadline: Monday, June 27

Project Reports

(submitted in advance of meeting)

- **Attend Displays** – no report
- **Butterfly House** – no report
- **Coralville Historical Schoolhouse** – no report
- **Ecumenical Towers** – no report
- **Demo Garden** – Work sessions continue every Tuesday at 5 PM and have been productive. Tomatoes have been planted in the northwest corner of the garden; cucumbers in straw bales. Bush beans, wax beans and baby pumpkins are planted in the ground. Annual flowers were purchased to plant around the garden to pretty it up. A partial pickup load of compost from the landfill was purchased for the straw bales; the rest piled at the north end. Eggplant and lovage were planted and the herb bed cleaned out. The grassy areas in and around the garden have been mowed and will soon need to be mowed again! This week (Tuesday, June 7) projects are weeding and installing the recirculating pump in the fountain.
- **Downtown City Projects** - DCG Volunteer time: Sundays, 9–11 A.M. Downtown City Gardens has benefited from wonderful MG volunteer services to install native plants (utilizing a perennial movement design employed by Iowa City Parks Dept.) in an area along Burlington Street at the Capital Street Parking Garage. Volunteers are working to catch up with weeding and planting activities in the Secret Garden, Northside and along Melrose Avenue. The Melrose Avenue peonies and iris in bloom greet visitors heading into the city.
- **Fairgrounds Landscaping** – no report
 - Rain Garden
 - Fairgrounds Flower Beds
- **Firefighters Memorial** – no report
- **Plant Sale & Flea Market** – no report
- **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** – no report
- **Raptor Center Gardens** – no report
- **Speakers Bureau** - no report
- **Thymes** – no report; the JCMG Thymes blog (jcmg-thymes.com) there were: 448 views, 138 visitors and 3 posts. Melissa also compiled photos from the plant sale on the site at <https://jcmg-thymes.com/service/2022-plant-sale-flea-market/>.