

JCMG Steering Committee Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, May 10, 2023

1. Call to order
2. Approval of April 12 Meeting Minutes
3. Treasurer's Report (Jean)
 - General Fund: **\$23,400.05**
 - Plum Grove: **\$1,395.73**
 - Butterfly House: **\$3,249.42**
 - New or Known Pending Receipts: NONE (as of May 9)
 - Marylou Gay memorial funds (?)
 - Compost for Plant Sale potting sessions (Chris & Doug)
4. Extension Report/Announcements (Shannon)
 - Buckets of Flowers
 - Update on Growing Together Grant
 - Bookcase at Extension Office remains available
5. Review of JCMG Steering Committee Meeting Calendar (Doug)
 - May
 - Taste of Heritage Garden at Plum Grove menu planning meeting (on Ext. Office calendar for May 24, 6 P.M. via Shannon)
 - Plant Sale & Flea Market (May 20)
 - June
 - Prep for Tomato Taste (August)
 - July – no steering committee meeting
 - Johnson County 4-H & FFA Fair
 - Taste of Plum Grove
 - Prep for Fall Harvest Meeting & Potluck (September or October)
6. New Business
7. Old Business
 - Update on Plant Sale & Flea Market preparation
 - JCMG Bylaws review completion & updated document

- Proposed wording of bylaws review process:

“These bylaws shall be reviewed every two years by three JCMG ... “

Shall be amended to:

These bylaws shall be reviewed every three years by a committee of three JCMGs appointed by consensus of the Executive Committee. At least two of the three members should be MGs who actively attend Steering Committee meetings. The third member should be an MG selected outside the Steering Committee membership.

8. Administrative Reports

9. Adjourn

- Date of Next Meeting: **Wednesday, June 14**
- Thymes Newsletter Deadline: **Friday, May 26**

Project Reports

(submitted in advance of meeting)

- **Yard & Garden Information** – no report
- **Butterfly House** – no report
- **Coralville Historical Schoolhouse** – Wow! We have made progress in a short time with a few workers. I am so grateful to those that attended one of our three work sessions and those that have worked there on their own. We have had three MG attending other than myself. An intern has walked through the gardens with me, but hasn't been available during our work times. She lives near and will come work in the gardens when she gets a chance.

We transplanted lily turf that has been hiding under the evergreen bushes on the east side of the schoolhouse foundation plantings and moved a few on the west side. We have thinned the penny cress from the east garden and started a weed removal project there.

Darlene Clausen allowed us to dig up some of her Lily of the Valley and we planted those in front of the school house next to the foundation where a few more were located after a large weeding project in that area.

Many thistles were removed in the west native perennial garden and we have added new plants including, Bee Balm, Baptisia, Perennial Salvia, Black Eyed Susan (left over from our potting session at the fairgrounds), Lavender, and Butterfly Weed, to name a few. I brought enough mulch to lightly cover the new or moved plants and watered on several occasions.

I have been in contact with the Coralville Parks Dept, Nick Houg, to request mulch and help with fixing a trellis and removal of grass in the foundation planting area. He has been very responsive to my emails and texts, however, the City is out of mulch at this time with no assurance of purchasing more.

Gail Johnson has given us some zinnia seeds (maybe from the downtown project) to plant in the next few weeks, so we look forward to adding these to the east garden. We didn't suffer any damage with our new plantings during the hail storm this week, but many branches were scattered in the gardens.

We will need to keep up with our weeds and put in a few more plants, but the gardens look great and we accomplished what I felt was necessary while the weather remained cool and rain was in the forecast. Karen Martinek, Project Coordinator.

- **Ecumenical Towers** – no report

- **Demo Gardens** – We replanted extensively at the Demo Garden last night (May 9) after hail had shredded our onions and rhubarb. We got tomatoes and lots more planted. It's looking good. Chris Sedrel, Proj. Coordinator
- **Downtown City Projects** – no report
- **Fairgrounds Beautification (includes Raingarden)** – Fairgrounds looks wonderful. We are in the process of planning bed plantings. Beautiful weather to work. Chris Sedrel, Proj. Coordinator
- **Firefighters Memorial** – no report
- **Plant Sale & Flea Market** – no report
- **Hortline** – no report
- **Hospice Garden at Willow Creek** – We will meet this Thursday and most Thursdays at the park at 9:00 A.M. This summer, the City of Iowa City will be doing construction along the bike trail that passes our site. Apparently, they will reach our location later in the summer. At that point, we will probably stop work until they have finished in our area.
- **JC Fair/4-H Buckets of Flowers & Scarecrow** – no report
- **Oaknoll Garden Project** – There are 12 master gardeners assisting Oaknoll residents with their gardens this year. Included are three MGs assisting with the health center courtyard raised beds. The MGs are getting ready for the delivery of the Oaknoll annual flowers and will be helping their pals get the plants in the ground.
- **Plum Grove** – no report
- **Speakers Bureau** – no report
- **Thymes Newsletter** – We've been getting many quality submissions for the newsletter--many thanks to those who have sent in project updates and articles. The JCMG-Thymes blog had a good month in April with 368 views by 158 visitors.