

JCMG Steering Committee
Wednesday, May 10, 2023, 6:30 P.M., Hybrid Meeting

Minutes

1. Call to order 6:37 P.M. (15/23 Quorum - yes)

Present:

Doug Geraets, Chair
Barb Robinson, Secretary
Melissa Serenda, Thymes
Lavon Yeggy, Plum Grove Gardens, Buckets of Flowers, 4H Scarecrows
Carolyn Murphy, Plum Grove Gardens, Butterfly House
Emil Rinderspacher, Plant Sale & Flea Market
Chris Sedrel, Demo Garden, Fairgrounds Beautification
Laurie Roehl, Demo Garden, Fairgrounds Beautification
Megan Garrels, Speakers Bureau
Kay Mohling, Yard and Garden Information
Karen Martinek, Coralville Schoolhouse
Beth Fisher, Social Events
John Weeg, Ecumenical Tower
Mary Starry, Hortline
Darlene Clausen, Plum Grove, Plant Sale & Flea Market

Absent:

Jackie Wellborn, Vice-Chair, Yard and Garden Information
Jean Holzhammer, Treasurer
Linda Schreiber, Downtown City Gardens
Barb Schlintler, Firefighters Memorial
Melanie Hauptert, Hospice Garden
Vickie Siefers, Oaknoll
Michael Hesseltine, Ecumenical Tower
Mike Murphy, Butterfly House
Sharon Jeter, Past Chair

Others present: Shannon Bielicke, Laurie Canady, Mary Hensley, Carl Hensley

2. Approval of March 2023 meeting minutes - approved without corrections

3. Treasurer's Report

a. General Fund: **\$23,400.05**

b. Plum Grove: **\$1,395.73**

c. Butterfly House: **\$3,249.42**

d. New or known pending receipts:

- Reimbursement: Doug Geraets Plant Sale, compost for potting events, \$11.60 (MG General)
- Reimbursement: Laurie Roehl Demo Garden, plants, \$71.53 (MG General)
- Reimbursement: Laurie Roehl (Fairgrounds Gardens, plants, \$36.05 MG General)
- Donation: Marylou Gay memorial funds, Donations have been received in response to MaryLou's obituary request that memorials be directed to JCMG and 4H. Shannon will have a report of amounts at the next meeting and will take care of thank-you notes.
- \$1000 start-up funds (MG General), Plant Sale, will be used to make change at the sale and will be reimbursed from proceeds.

4. **Extension Report/Announcements** (Shannon)

a. Buckets of Flowers

- Bella, 4-H Coordinator approved Lavon's request to add a \$50 Best of All Buckets Award.
- Approved unanimously

b. Update on Growing Together Grant

- Shannon and JCMG Yard & Garden Info are planning a container gardening event at the Coralville Community Pantry on June 3. JCMG will have an information table which will include flyers on food safety, growing vegetables at home, etc. The grant will pay for tomato plants, soil and containers demonstrating tomato planting in containers. Pantry customers will be able to take potted plants home (while supplies last).
- There will be an event to install raised garden beds at the Pantry May 26. John Boller has revised the plan to use troughs as the planters. Sara Sprouse will be presenting 'Preserve the Taste 101'.

- Shannon will send an email to membership with information about these events.
 - MGs may donate garden produce to any local food safety organization for the donation to be part of the Growing Together Grant. Harvest and drop-off volunteer hours should be documented under the Donation Garden, Growing Together, Food Security tabs.
- c. Bookcase at Extension Office remains available
- The new bookcase for Hortline has arrived. This was purchased using Office Supply funds (not MG). The old locked case is still available.
 - Will be donated it to Restore if not claimed by next week.

5. **Review of JCMG Steering Committee Meeting Calendar** (Doug)

a. May

- The Taste of the Heritage Garden at Plum Grove menu planning meeting will be May 24 at 6:00pm at the Extension Office. The event will take place Wednesday, July 12.
- Plant Sale & Flea Market (May 20)

b. June

- Prep for Tomato Taste: The date has been set for Saturday, Sept. 9 from 3–4pm, but it was noted that the Iowa - Iowa State football game is scheduled for that day. The date will be reset.

c. July

- No steering committee meeting
- Johnson County 4-H & FFA Fair will be held Sunday, July 23 through Wednesday, July 26. Butterfly training will be on Saturday July 22.
- Taste of Plum Grove July 12
- Prep for Fall Harvest Meeting & Potluck (September or October): Beth will not be available at the end of September. Shannon will look into possible dates in October and report at the June meeting.

6. **New Business** no new business

7. Old Business

a. Update on Plant Sale & Flea Market preparation

- Emil is sending emails to the different work groups with details for working the sale.
- We want more people roaming to answer questions and direct people to various areas. The holding area will have 2-3 MG roaming the sale floors to assist buyers by delivering plants to the holding area.
- The plants at the Heritage Barn were hammered by the storm on Sunday. Emil plans to add more plants from his garden and the perennial group will trim and clean up the damaged plants.
- We will have photos of most perennials which should help with sales.
- Set up in buildings B & C will begin on Tuesday, especially the flea market area in B. Doug and Roger are in charge. There will be some tables already set up from the breast cancer sale. We have been asked to leave 80 tables set up after the sale for a later event.
- We are working to get 4H volunteers to help carry plants to cars. Sarah Krieger will be meeting with her horse & pony groups tomorrow night and will ask for volunteers. Shannon will remind her in the morning and follow up after the meeting.
- There will be six cashiers in building B along with the flea market, woody plants, gifts and popcorn-popping (to mask the diesel odor). Holly Hotchkiss will be in charge of cashiers in place of Jean.
- The Silent Auction and all other plant material will be in Building C.
- We are building on what we did last year. We have fewer plants (we recycled a lot last year) with more variety, and have tried to get things that sold well last year.
- Lavon will bring from her garden potted black raspberries.

b. JCMG Bylaws review discussion & voting

- Doug presented the following revised 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 a MG selected from outside the Steering Committee membership.”*
- Emil moved to approve the amendment and Beth seconded. The new wording was unanimously approved.
- Shannon & Doug will revise the Bylaws document to include the approved changes. The revised document will be reviewed by the Steering Committee before a vote for final approval.

8. Administrative Reports & Announcements

- a. Doug requested contributions to the Thymes newsletter.
- b. Laurie moved to adjourn, John seconded

9. Adjourn (8:20 P.M.)

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