

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Master Gardener Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes for October 25, 2019

The Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Master Gardener program advisory committee met Friday, October 25, 2019 at Reiman Gardens in Ames. The committee was called to order at 10 am. The group participated in a brief icebreaker.



Members present included Co-chairs Becki Lynch and Chelsea Martens, Shannon Bielicke, Sharon Jeter, Ann Carter, Doug Brightman, Katelyn Brinkerhoff, RoxAnn Rhodes, Sherry Ford, Donald Lewis, Steven Eilers, Cindy Haynes, Susan DeBlieck and Richard Jauron. Dennis Johnson was a guest.

Old Business:

- We welcomed Sherry and Steven as new committee members
- Shannon and Alan's two terms have expired, thank you for your service!
- Ann and Becki will start a new term, Lisa will not.
- Open positions: Southwest Iowa MG volunteer, Southeast Iowa MG staff

New Business:

Susan provided information on:

- Summer webcasts were used by 34 counties. They will be added to the YouTube channel in late November.
- Upcoming winter webcasts being planned. Topics will include: climate change and native plants. These will be approximately 1 hour in length and cost counties \$75 for access to all three.
- Conferences:

October 30, 2019

Iowa Master Gardener Advisory Committee Meeting

- Susan participated in National Conference on Extension Volunteerism – Billings, MT held May 13-17
- Susan participated in International Master Gardener Conference – Valley Forge, PA held June 18-21
- Looking ahead:
 - Master Gardener Coordinator Conference hosted in Tennessee in Sept 2020
 - International Master Gardener Coordinator Conference hosted by Virginia Tech in 2021 and Kansas State in 2023
- Growing Together Mini-grants: 22 projects are being funded in 2019.
 - 277 MG volunteers and their partners donated 82,024 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables to food pantries
 - 2020 Mini Grants have been announced – 10/30 pre applicant call, applications due January 10, 2020
- 2019 MG Training
 - ISU Extension and Outreach Advancement is working on a promotional video for the MG training. MN and WI have videos counties are currently using.
 - 24 counties are currently hosting the training. Trainee numbers are down (240, usually 300+)
 - Class on Campus was October 19, 2019 at Scheman Building in Ames. 214 MG trainees and 16 additional people attended. Cost is about \$13,000 to host the event at Scheman Building. 12 people registered late which led to late fees.
- Hort InService likely to be held March 31, 2020. Many liked that it was the day before the ISU Extension and Outreach Annual Conference in 2019.
- VRS updates:
 - Working on adding detail to the Volunteer Reporting System (emergency contact number, check boxes for # hour volunteer pins, etc...)
- Set up with ISU Foundation to be able to accept donations to offer MG Training Scholarships, will do promotion for Giving Tuesday, December 3rd



October 30, 2019

Iowa Master Gardener Advisory Committee Meeting

The committee formed three groups to discuss and share a) How to reactivate people who never completed the MG 40 volunteer hour internship, b) How many sessions/hours should the Master Gardener Training be, c) How will changes within ISU Extension and Outreach (regional directors, Salesforce) affect the Master Gardener program?

Keli Tallman, ISU Extension and Outreach, presented on Emotional Intelligence.

Susan will send a Doodle poll to help in selecting our next 2019 meeting date.

With no further business, the committee adjourned at 2:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Carter