

## **EAU CLAIRE AREA MASTER GARDENER VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION**

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES-MARCH 12, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting was called to order by President Ellen T. at 12:58 p.m. Jeanne C., Paula B., Nancy S., Louise W-R., Chris S., Ellen T., Rita G. and Andy H. present.

**APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES:** Motion made by Paula B. to accept the minutes as written with Chris S. seconding it. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Chris S. presented the financial report via e-mail on 3/11/2020. The subject of applying for a WIMGA grant to supplement education meetings and conference charges was brought up and a brief discussion was held. Grants are available in increments of \$100, \$250 and \$400. We will address this again late summer in order to apply by the deadline of October 1, 2020. Nancy S. made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Paula B. Motion carried.

**EDUCATION REPORT:** Due to the present COVID 19 situation, all meetings of 50+ people have been canceled for March and April, via state regulations. Level I MGV training program is postponed until further notice. Our association will watch what develops in regard to our annual plant sale. CVTC has been reserved for our annual gardening seminar, the first Saturday in February 2021. Ellen T. took charge of contacting board members about changing the board meeting day/time. April board meeting will remain on the second Thursday at 1: 00 p.m., possibly by SKYPE, if COVID 19 situation remains viable. The month of May will change to the second Friday at 1:00 p.m. and continue at that day/time for future months. Discussion was held about future conferences, mainly for the purpose of combining resources among the counties Margaret M. leads. A multi-county board meeting could be held to garner ideas. The Energy Education Center is a consideration for future conferences.

**WIMGA Update:** Andy H. reported next meeting is Saturday, April 18, 2020, at the Hancock Ag Research Station.

**NEW PROJECT APPROVAL UPDATE:** Chris reports no new project approval, as yet. Old criteria to be disposed of before new criteria can be set up.

**BY-LAWS AND SOPs:** A meeting will be held next week, with discussion to focus on length of term for board members plus length of term for officers.

**MENTORING PROGRAM UPDATE:** Level I training - eight applicants. Afternoon orientation will be from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> or on Friday, April 17. The evening orientation will be from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Monday, March 30 or Friday, April 17.

**FARM TECHNOLOGY DAYS:** Extension will have a booth for Farm Technology Days, July 20-23. Jeanne C. offered to e-mail Margaret M. about displaying an herb tray and pots of veggies and flowers.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Discussion was held about standing committees and having a present board member on each of the committees. EDUCATION COMMITTEE, Ellen T., Paula B., and Louise W-R., covers monthly education, annual conferences and ad hoc conferences. FINANCE COMMITTEE, Jeanne C. and Chris S., is concerned with audit, budget and dues. PROJECT APPROVAL COMMITTEE, Nancy S. and Rita G., helps with notifying and approving projects and securing gardeners to sign up. COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE, Ellen T., covers newsletter and Facebook and MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE, Andy H., works with mentoring, retention, board nominations and new members. Other items mentioned—look at placemaking, volunteer hours, and annual calendar. Ellen asked if any MGVs would be open to having their garden toured on June 27 or July 25 by MN bus tour. No board members volunteered to accept this challenge.

Jeanne C. moved to adjourn the meeting, Andy H. seconded it. Motion passed, meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Next meeting is Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at the extension office. Depending on COVID 19 situation, meeting may be via SKYPE.

Rita Gundry, Secretary