

Master Gardener Executive Board meeting minutes:: October 14, 2021. 12 Noon.
 Present: Margaret M., Jeannie C., Judy M., Louise W-R., Chris S., Andy H.
 Absent: Barb H.

Item	Discussion Points
Call to Order	12:02pm
Approval/Correction of Minutes	Approved by Chris, 2nd by Andy
Treasurer's Report	Approved by Louise, 2nd by Jeannie. Many paid yearly dues via internet.
Education	Greenhouse tour date to be determined. Due to Covid, we will have to sign up for the tours to enable social distancing. There will be multiple tours if needed. December holiday party on the 6th, will be at Chris S., as her property allows for social distancing. Firepits, heaters, cocoa and cookies. January 17: Mushrooms! February 21: Organic control of buckthorn.
Project Update	The membership committee met and came up with many ideas for getting members active and happy. There has been much confusion between counties and Madison, due to budget cutting in Madison and rearranging structure and positions. The executive board needs to be on top of who's who in the pecking order, in order to answer questions from MGV. It was mentioned that Sue Waits and Debra Banov would like to be a part of the Membership committee. Welcome to them!
More project updates	The teaching garden needs to be cleaned up

	<p>for the season. Membership committee proposed calling members to ask for permission to spotlight them in the newsletter, or on Facebook. (Speaking of Facebook, JoAnn Strasser would like to step down from maintaining our page...looking for some help!)</p> <p>Other ideas: morning coffee hours, perhaps in person, or via Zoom, just as a social gathering. Also, there will be a survey generated to find out member's wishes and concerns. Would also like to schedule summer garden tours, with an educational twist included for each. Perhaps even touring area wineries to find out how they do what they do.</p>
<p>Board Nominations</p>	<p>Chris S. term runs out this year and we need to seek nominations for her position as treasurer. The board members serve 2-year terms; President and Secretary, and Vice President and Treasurer are staggered terms, so that there remains some continuity with the leadership. Plus, we need to plan for the upcoming budget, and we will meet on November 3, at 9am to plan that.</p> <p>It was mentioned that having 5-9 members of the board of directors would be ideal. Sue Waits has agreed to be part of this board.</p>
<p>Photo Contest</p>	<p>Carol Cox is in charge of this, and is on top of the project.</p>
<p>Digger Award.</p>	<p>This award is given to a non-board member, who is nominated by their peers, as going above and beyond volunteering. This is generally awarded at the December gathering.</p>
<p>Covid Update</p>	<p>Madison is relaxing some of the restrictions, though if you do a project, say, at a school, you would have to make sure that place has liability insurance in place. Some projects would fall under the Extension umbrella, but careful planning is imperative. Andy mentioned that he knew of some coverage</p>

	<p>that we could get, ranging from \$250-\$500 per year, and discussion was had, making sure that we know exactly what that covers.</p> <p>Other than that, the covid situation is holding at status quo thus far.</p>
New business	<p>Spring plant sale will be held in conjunction with the Hosta Society on a Sunday, the date to be chosen by the Hosta folks, as they have the liability coverage needed for this event.</p>
Next meeting	<p>Thursday, November 11, at 12noon.</p>
Adjourn	<p>Adjourned at 1:07</p>
Other	<p>Much discussion ensued about the differences between the Eau Claire Garden Club and our group. The EC Garden Club is essentially a social group, while our group is more focused on the education aspect. Plus we provide scholarships to folks who need the help, and can help with class tuition payments. LIVELY discussion...</p>