

SEWMG Business & Budget Meeting Minutes

April 9, 2008

Members present:

President Judy Williamson called the meeting to order.

Prior Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

3/15-3/31 report was accepted.

Old Business:

1. Treasurers Resignation – letter of explanation was sent to all MGVs. A CPA will audit the books before a new Treasurer is named. Any allegation of tax fraud is unfounded; administration of grants has been discussed with both UW-Extension Madison (Dr. Mahr) and with UW-Extension Milwaukee (Carolyn Johnson). An end-of-year accounting will be requested from groups receiving grants so SEWMG may evaluate effectiveness.
2. Volunteers or Treasurer – Roxanne Lombardi is heading the search committee to redefine the responsibilities of the position. Marcia Zientek and Ed Kraus will assist.
3. Mentoring Survey - 69 (of 105) surveys were completed and returned. Information has been provided to the garden chairs.
4. Non-renewing MGVs – Patti Witt has had good success converting lapsed members.
5. 2008 Conference – 20 vendors, 99 registrants to date.
6. Plant Sale – a trailer has been purchased; a centrally located storage shed has been rented. Five MGVs have keys to the shed. A clip board is being used for inventory control.
7. Bylaw review committee –Section 3 recommendations were distributed, along with the proposed structure of the Board of Directors. As sections are completed, they will be posted on the website. 2/3 of voting members must approve bylaw changes.

New Business:

1. Grant Committee – three grant requests had been submitted; the committee recommended fully funding one (Old World Wisconsin) and partially funding two others (Boerner Botanical Gardens/BBG).
 - After discussion a motion was made to approve granting \$650 for Old World Wisconsin (signage and enlargement of herb garden). This was carried.
 - The grant committee recommended providing \$1,500 for BBG's gardens and \$1,500 for an educational fund. (\$2,500 had been requested for each.) A motion to amend the recommendation to \$2,500 for the gardens and \$2,500 for an educational fund was seconded. The motion for the higher amount did not carry. A motion for \$1,500 for BBG gardens and \$1,500 for an educational fund did carry. A total of \$3,000 will be given to Boerner Botanical Gardens.
 - SEWMG expects receive recognition and financial reporting for the grants.

Other:

1. 2008 Conference – 1,000 raffle tickets are being sold for the custom quilted wall hanging Sandy Manning created.
2. State Fair Admission Tickets – Faouzi will buy discounted tickets for MGVs working the fair. (He will calculate 5.5 people per shift).

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Consumer Horticulture Agent

1. April's Plant Health Advisor topic is snow mold. Fact sheets were distributed.
2. Three MGVs volunteered for the Habitat for Humanity presentation
3. General training is over. There are 105 new master gardeners.
4. DVD recordings were made of the presentations.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Wintersberger