

## **SEWMG Business Meeting Minutes September 10, 2008**

President Judy Williamson called the meeting to order.

### **Prior Meeting Minutes**

Minutes of prior meeting were approved as written and posted on the website. Janet is on vacation minutes taken by Sandy Manning.

### **Consumer Horticulture Agent Report**

1. The office is still moving but the location has not been chosen. The last site was not a good fit for extension.
2. County budget is again up for discussion. The board is holding four meetings before the budget process starts.
3. Hours were due on September 15<sup>th</sup>. If they are not in yet turn them in as soon as possible.
4. Specialty training starts in October and is open to all master gardener volunteers who have completed general training and turned in hours for 2008. Theme for the four sessions is Flowers and Design.
5. County Fair is the last weekend in September. Last years audience was small but very interested. This year our display is moved to the Horticulture building near the Harvest fest. The request is out for volunteers for do demonstrations, plant doctor, and man the Master Gardener booth.
6. Date of review of the state fair exhibit will be posted on the list serve as soon as a good time is found.
7. The major new item for next years fair is something for kids to do. The DNR has a passport the kids look through the area for stamps to add to the sheet. We had many requests for stamps. Having something to hold the children's attention will allow parents more time to ask questions.
8. Several events coming up for either attendance or volunteers, pot recycling, Natural Landscaping Seminar, Spud, Berry and Dairy Tour in Central WI, Boerner Symposium, Roses and Herbs at Boerner, and the Johnson's Nursery Symposium. List serve information sent out on dates and specific information.
9. Horticulture information for this meeting was on Fall Swarming Insects. None of these insects are very damaging to plants and only Yellow Jackets are a real threat to people. Most of the problem is the number of insects looking for a site to overwinter. The dry summer will increase the number of Box elder bugs because the fungi that attacks the insects is suppressed by the lack of moisture.

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### Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report accepted as submitted. The last conference update was included in this report. Deposit was made for the Holiday party at the Four Points Sheraton near the airport. One of the CDs matured and was rolled into an account at Educators. The maturing CD is shown in the financial report and the new account will be listed in next months report. The next CD will mature in December and the finance committee will explore options at the time of maturity. The financial report is filed at the office.

### Old Business:

1. Treasurer Search committee reports that a new treasurer has been found, Joy Towell is a retired CPA. The Board of Directors approved Joy's position. Joy will be looking for an assistant. The full breakdown of the treasurer's position will be in the next newsletter.
2. Discussion of the Finance Committee and its make up was then taken up. The final consensus was that the committee would consist of the Board of Directors, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and others at the pleasure of the President. The Boards inclusion in this committee would insure continuity as each board member serves for three years.
3. Internal audits will still continue once per year with outside audits being done on a regular basis.
4. A PO Box need to be set up for all mail to the treasurer.
5. Thanks to Roxanne and the entire search committee for a job well done.
6. The By-law committee reviewed the dates of meetings and had copies of the by-laws as well as ballots. All members will receive a ballot and the by-laws are posted on the web site.
7. Budget requests are due to the Finance Committee by September 22<sup>nd</sup>. If demonstration gardens do not submit requests last years numbers will be used.
8. Report of IRS extension to November 15<sup>th</sup>. The treasurer as well as the acting treasurer will work to get this report in before this date.
9. Picnic was well attended with a wonderful location at the Stagecoach Inn and perfect weather.
10. Review of who owns the library. If it was not given to extension it was proposed that the library contents be reviewed and those books not being used for research for the Yard and Garden Line be donated to Boerner. This discussion brought about the idea of an index of all decisions made at meetings. This was tabled as too cumbersome and time consuming to do.
11. The Garden Review Committee is still meeting and will coordinate with Sharon on visiting all the demo gardens. This committee was asked to review the gardens earlier in the season so budgets can reflect things that have to be done in these gardens.
12. Maria is looking for a new chair for the Zoo Heritage Garden. Several of the current volunteers will be approached.

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New Business

1. Grant request was brought forth from Eloisa to support part of the county fair. Bill made a motion to donate \$500 to the Milwaukee County Fair. The motion was seconded by Marsha. An amendment to the motion was made by Judy to increase the amount to \$750 and it was seconded by Liela. Ed then amended the amendment to increase the amount to \$2,000 this was seconded by Kathleen. The new amount would put our name and logo on the banner for the fair and give the fair much needed financial support. The amended amendment passed and the entire motion as amended passed as well.
2. Kay mentioned the monarch butterfly migration and that one of the stopping points is at the county park office on Watertown Plank Road. The Butterfly Garden at the zoo is also a certified monarch stopping point.

Motion to adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Manning