

OSU Master Gardner Volunteers Athens County

DATE: 9/25/2023- Minutes

Meeting Details:

Location: Zoom (thank you for your flexibility in light of Covid numbers rising; we wanted to error on the side of caution in regard to the health of our members and Zoom seemed like the prudent decision.

Meeting time: 6:00

Members Present (list may not be complete):

Dorie Gilbride, Terrie Perez, Michael Lincoln, Debi Daniels, Debbie Baulding, Cecelia Weldon, Laura Caple, Lee Gregg, Zella Nisley, Bec La Sor, Joke Harnish, Molly Gassaway, Nan Needs, Nancy Walker, Betsy Flum, Kathy McCorkle, Nan Needs, Ed Brown, Susie Schroer

Business meeting:

Karen was in Indiana watching her Grandson play ball; Kathy lead the meeting and called the meeting to order at 6:05

Old Business:

- Approval of meeting notes:
 - Laura Caple noticed a misspelling from the August minutes; “adjorn” should be corrected to “adjourn.” Laura made motion to approve minutes with the correction
 - Michael seconded the motion
 - August meeting minutes approved

Treasure’s Report: Nan Needs – Thank you for your patience as we work through a process to issue reimbursements and honorary payments. A DRAFT of the final process was sent out in early September. Our balance is \$7198 (the same as last month); Nan continues to work with Faye to compare receipts and confirm balance of funds.

Discussion of DRAFT Procedures for MGV Reimbursement for Expenses:

- If receipts are turned in to Faye by Monday evening, she can process the reimbursement payment Tuesday morning and then payment will go out in the mail the following day. You can also turn in receipts to Nan and she will turn it into Faye for issuing reimbursements (slightly longer process).
- OSU prefers only 1-2 people/committee to receive reimbursement checks.
 - Terrie had questions and concerns about the process and there were discussions to work through those questions and concerns. Committees worked through who currently submits receipts for reimbursements to identify names for OSU.
 - Other options – Nan:

- Ed can make purchases if proactively given a needs list
- Nan can request money each month for our Hocking Valley account to then issue checks from that account
- Dorie asked if donations to MGVS are tax-deductible?
 - Nan – yes, donations are tax-deductible
- Kathy – reminder that items in need of purchase do not need to be pre-approved by Athens MGVS unless the item requested goes over the budget appropriated for the committee.
- Kathy – As stated in the DRAFT procedures, “The MGVS club will maintain a checking account at the Hocking Valley Bank with a minimum balance of \$250. The Treasurer will request an annual ‘cash back’ from Faye of \$300 to cover the direct reimbursement of honorariums for guest speakers or other incidental club expenses.”
 - Kathy – Also remember that we would not be allowed to fundraise otherwise without OSU
 - Lee – In addition to being able to fundraise, remember OUS now also covers our insurance which is a good cost saver for us.
 - Kathy thanked Nan, Ed, and Faye with their help on the DRAFT procedures; the procedures will be shared once finalized.

Committee Reports:

- **Children’s Garden:** Terrie – Thanked Molly Gassaway from bringing kids groups by to visit the garden for programs. 687 pounds of produce have been donated. Volunteers are still meeting Wednesday mornings. All of the grass covered by the cardboard is now dead. There has been a very successful sweet potato harvest which is due to garden bed improvements, and more weeding. Terrie also thanks Debi Daniels for starting so many plants for the garden from seed.
- **Program Committee:** Laura Caple – The lady that was to present tonight was in a car accident earlier and could no longer make tonight’s presentation. Laura tried to shift a lot of things around but those plans didn’t work out so going back to a bumblebee webinar through the OSU bee lab.

In October we will be at the Library for a presentation on gardening and climate change. In November there will be a presentation on all the nature preserves in the area.

- **Newsletter:** Molly – Keep sending ideas on stories/content. The questions coming in have been great content for a Q&A section of the Newsletter so keep them coming.
 - Lee said that her and Joke will do an article on ferns
 - Laura would like to see an article on how not to kill Christmas cacti

- **Farmer's Market:** Kathy thanked Lee for working with Billie to keep the booth going through September.

Lee thanked Cinda for work the booth the last few weekends.

Lee also mentioned that her small Prius could easily fit everything; thank you to Billie for pairing down items for the booth so that it could be manageable for one person.

Laura asked how someone could rejoin MGCV if they were a member in the past but have been inactive.

- Ed said they would need to do a new background check; once cleared then they can start volunteering and accumulating hours.

Debbie Baulding said that someone from Rural Healthy OH asked if we could do a presentation for the Senior "Up-Beet" program. Debbie volunteered to give information to the group about the MGCV program.

- Lee would also like to help Debbie with the presentation

Lee also has a list from the Farmer's Market booth, of individuals interested in volunteering and doing the intern class. She will share that list with Ed for recruitment

New/Other Business:

- Kathy – Reminded everyone of the MGCV conference October 12-14
- Kathy – Looking at new opportunities for our group and talking with Ed and the Executive Committee about possibly hosting the MGCV conference in two years. Currently gathering more information now, but leaning more towards hosting a regional conference first before hosting the state conference.
- Kathy brought up the topic of nominations of officers for next term:
 - Lee will be gathering nominations and would like 1-2 others to volunteer to be a part of the nomination committee.
 - Zella asked that someone newer to Athens MGCV be a part of the nomination committee
 - If interested in helping, reach out to Lee to be on the committee and/or reach out if you would like to nominate someone
 - Michael asked if current officers could serve again and/or do a different role?
 - Lee responded that yes, current officers could serve again in the same role or a new role
 - Discussion followed on how we used to have co-presidents that were staggered (2 year terms with one co-president starting on an odd year, and the other co-president starting on an even year in effort to carry-on institutional knowledge)

- Kathy – For the October meeting, should we meet for a half hour at 5:45 to be done by 6:15 for the program at the Library? Or should we cancel October's meeting? Other suggestions?
 - Laura suggested that we could just have committee reports and hold other business discussions for November
 - After other discussions, it was decided that we will not have a MGV meeting on Monday (10/23), but that we will meet on Tuesday (10/24) instead.

Meeting adjourned:

- Bec La Sor made the motion to adjourn
 - Debi Daniels seconded
 - Motion to adjourn approved

Next meeting will be on TUESDAY 10/24/23

Meeting minutes were submitted by Susie Schroer