

OSU Master Gardener Volunteers Athens County
September 27, 2021-Minutes

Location: Zoom Conference meeting (Virtual meeting) (Meeting ID: 967 1756 0208, Password 234382)

Meeting time: 6:00 PM

Members Present: (List may not be complete) Ed Brown, Tom Forhan, Nan Needs, Kathy McCorkle, Laura Caple, Lee Gregg, Ceil Weldon, Marcia Burchby, Carolyn Sutherland, Terrie Perez, Joke Harnish, Patricia O'Brien, Roxanne Male-Brune, Betsy Brijju, Linda Parsons, Sharon Deno, Alexa Ross, Emilie Wood, Nancy Walker, Zella Nisley

Speaker/Program-Webinar on the Spotted Lanternfly

Business Meeting: 6:00 PM Tom Forhan called the meeting to order at 6:07 and welcomed everyone. Was glad that Betsy could be present for the meeting. Her family will be moving to Central India in two weeks. She will be greatly missed.

Old Business

- **Approval of meeting notes from August 23:** Amendment to Aug. Meeting-Lee reported that Sue Boyd said Project Plant is "in" on contributing to the Mason Chamber's plaque. **Unanimous approval**
- **Treasure's Report: Nan Needs-**Still has \$40.00 to deposit and Ed has a check for her also. Nan reported a total of \$4887.34

Committee Reports:

- **Farmers Market-Carolyn Sutherland/Billie Kariher-**Carolyn said there was no new information to report. She said that the program would start up next year and that she has been continually giving things to Billie. Lee wondered if Billie needed the i-pad for worker signups and would she be comfortable using the i-pad? The i-pad would also need to be in a central location to be useful as a sign-up for projects and volunteering instead of sign-up sheets.
- **Children's Garden-Terrie Perez-**Still harvesting peppers, squash, cantaloupe, and sweet potatoes. Zella reported the 548 lbs. have been turned in to CFI as of last Saturday. Terrie said that October was the month to pull most things out of the garden. Ed will send a sign-up sheet to volunteer to pull plants and put in the compost bins. Let Terrie know you are coming and she will let you know specifically which bin to put the plants. Laura, Zella, and Naga have been working on the compost bins, it is a huge job. You may notice that the front boards are off the bins. The last bin is not breaking down, items are too large. Lee asked for the Rule of Thumb for the size of plant to put in and Terrie said it depended on the size of the stalk. The bigger the stalk, the smaller piece should be. 6-8 inch pieces should help. Also need to watch the green-to-brown proportion in each bin. Around the garden, Joke and husband bought a new lock for the storage shed and Terrie is needing volunteers to work on the Perennial beds around the garden. Invasives are taking over and need someone experienced with strawberries to give suggestions. They need some loving care. Have had some rabbits in the garden. Coming in under the fence which needs fixed. Terrie thought the garlic was keeping the voles out the the garden boxes and Ed has 7 varieties of garlic to donate. Terrie needs someone with a chain saw to cut down a cherry tree in the garden. Nan thought she would be able to provide help. Children are still coming to the garden-CFI are bringing children from the Community Center. Remember that education is the #1 objective for Master Gardeners and the reason for the Children's Garden. Discussed ideas for the Garden. Terrie and Joke said people are stopping by and noticing the garden from bike path. What is the policy about picking/gathering seeds from the garden? Use your judgement. If the plant is in abundance, no harm for public to gather a few seeds. Terrie and Betsy would like some educational materials in the garden for visitors to take. Maybe informational sheets and gardening magazines. Also, discussed the banner that was to be printed for the Farmers Market and used the garden as well. Suggestion for a sign on the fence facing the bike path to advertise the garden. Example: "All

Welcome and garden maintained by the Master Gardeners. Please leave things as you find them.” Should there be two signs made? One for the Market and one for the garden? Difficult to transfer one poster back and forth. Asked about the poster Abbey Rodjom had worked on, and Kathy said she had a copy when she reviewed the poster for Abbey. Will send the file to Ed to take a look at. Thought it would be a good idea to have a QR code for Master Gardeners site for publicity, which the poster did include. Ed was asked if the poster would have to be made by OSU and he said he would check.

- **PR Committee**-Tom stated that someone had voiced interest and would need to make progress on this. Ed will check the website and see if anyone had signed up.
- **Program Committee-Laura Caple/Lee Gregg**-Laura announced that the Athens Soil and Water was collecting **common milkweed** pods through end of October. Must be dry and brown or gray in color. Place them in a paper bag to turn in at the Office on Rt 682 in the Plains. Amy Stone will be giving the program tonight on the Spotted Lanternfly. She will have an update on the website, basically the same program with two new locations they were spotted in Cleveland at the end of August. Lee reported that in October CFI new Director will update what CFI is doing in our district. Reported about the “Veggie Van” that has been delivering vegetables around the county-even veggies from our Children’s Garden. In November will have Jerod the Forester and will talk about soils and spread of mycorrhizal fungi and the nutritional transfer. He will tailor his talk to gardening for our interest. January 2022 is our Celebration Meeting and February they are looking into various programs.
- **Newsletter Committee-Ceil Weldon/Marcia Burchby**-Tom complimented the September newsletter and was interested in how to divide some of the plants that we all have. Marcia thanked people for book resources and photos. Char Rae had agreed to a regular book review monthly and Terrie had purchased the Weed Book (Common Backyard Weeds of the Upper Midwest by Teresa Marrone) and said it was great. She also asked if anyone had any info on Natria an eco-friendly non glyphosate herbicide talked about in the article Amesville Pollinator Pathway. Thought she could use it around the bricks and stones in the garden. Probably not to be used around plants that produce food. Ceil repeated what Marcia had said. Makes their job easier, but Ed has to pare it down to fit within the pages. Thanks goes to Ed!

New Business:

- **Progress made on dedication for Mason Chambers-Char Rae not present.** Lee and Tom had both spoke and worked with Char on the details. Tom said that the proprietor of All American Trophies in the Plains suggested a plastic plaque costing \$25.00 for quality and durability. It would be easy to adhere to a stone at the Library garden. Some concern from Patricia of difference in cost of brass (\$200.00) to plastic (\$25.00). Can replace the plastic plaque if not durable. Additional idea to replace a tree that has died at the Library garden that Mason had put in a few years ago. Could check with Ann Bonner and/or Lisa Chambers as to what tree would be appropriate for the garden space. Lee will contact Sue Boyd. She may know what type of tree was planted before. Suggestion would be for Master Gardeners to help with the cost of the labor for the removal of the old tree and the purchase of a new one. Maybe Project Plant would supply the expense for the replacement tree.
- **Annual Master Gardener Conference-Ed Brown**-Ed needed to check for the new link to 2021 MG Conference and send it out to the members. The Award evening October 14th is free to attend. You must register for this event. Kathy asked about the cost-\$40.00 and if the committee had made a motion last year to cover the cost for some attendees. Betsy will send the link again to the administrative committee from Google Drive that would have the minutes from the meeting last year. Thought that 50% of the conference expenses could be covered. Patricia asked for clarification on that motion from last year.
- **Educational Opportunities-Ed Brown**-Ed had just sent out a link today on Educational Opportunities. They would include the **Lunch and Learn** series and **Happy Hour** webinar series. There are 8-9 sessions November-December. Tom wondered if the interns were getting the emails sent to the MG group. The new **Hands on Connect** was a little different, but Ed believed all were receiving the emails.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:05.

SPEAKER/PROGRAM: Webinar on the Spotted Lanternfly-Amy Stone-OSU Extension Educator Ag and Natural Resources. Website: woodlandstewards.osu.edu/resources. Amy's theme was to : JOIN THE BATTLE-BEAT THE BUG. <https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/anr-83>

Respectfully submitted by Kathy McCorkle