

Isanti County Master Gardener Meeting

January 12, 2017

Educational Presentation: “New Garden Plants for 2017” by Kelsey Sparks, Green Barn Nursery. Twenty-four people attended the presentation.

Members Present: Alison Almos, Barb Barry, Gretchen Beecroft, Debbie Bodnar, Mark Breeding, Rhonda Breeding, Duane Bunnell, Lucy Bunnell, Melissa Carstensen, Poppy Irwin, Sandi Johnson, Sandi Knolls, Ruth Paschke, Ken Schroeffer, April Tighe, Dawn Watson, Joan Watson, Robin Weber, Rocky Wilson, Carol Wood, Laura Yust, Wayne Yust.

Secretary’s Minutes: It was *moved, seconded and carried* to accept the November 10, 2016 minutes as distributed.

Treasurer’s Report: The treasurer’s year end report was accepted as presented.

Holiday Party Report: Great food and fun was had by the 28 people attending the party. It was suggested that next year it be held on the regular meeting night, since everyone has that slot already reserved on their calendars.

Burst Work Session: All speakers, including the keynote are in place. Lucy Bunnell passed around a sign up to help with food. There will be coffee and donuts in the morning, pulled pork sandwiches, calico beans, coleslaw and cornbread with honey for lunch, and cake and coffee in the afternoon. There are two options for registration - \$26 with lunch and \$20 without lunch. Duane Bunnell passed around a sheet for volunteers to sign up to approach merchants for the silent auction. Members are also invited to contribute to the silent auction. There are 6 open slots left for vendors Ruth Paschke announced, and it is expected that those slots will be filled with no problem. Each of the committee chairs is asked to submit a written procedure that they followed for their particular area (a standard operating procedure). This allows the next person to holding that position to have an outline to follow without having to start from square one. These procedures may change/improve each successive year. Extra Burst flyers were given to members to share.

T Shirt/Polo Shirt Order status: Ruth Paschke passed around a sheet for members to indicate which style (or both) they wish to have. After much discussion, it was *moved, seconded and carried* that each member would receive a \$10 credit toward their choice of shirt (T-shirt-\$10 and Polo shirt-\$15) with the remaining balance to be paid back to the organization. The t-shirts are 100% cotton Gildan brand (same as the green ones we now use) and the polo shirts are a cotton/poly blend also the Gildan brand. No samples are available in advance. Check sizes in a store if you are unsure of the size you need. To assure that the shirts will be available for Burst, orders must be in by Jan. 18th.

2017 Meeting speakers: Five more speakers are needed for the months of June, August,

September, October and November. Mark Breeding will send out a sign up sheet for those interested in presenting. Presentations could be shared by two speakers at 20 minutes each, if the 40-45 minutes seems daunting.

Monthly Newspaper Articles: Carol Bray is leaving the group. Holly Anderson will be coordinating the article submissions. However, presently in her absence Joan Watson is seeing that articles are submitted in a timely manner. Five more people are needed to write articles for the year. Poppy Irwin will continue with the newsletter.

Farmer's Market: Ken Schroepker asked the group to think about whether or not to continue with the pattern of this last summer with Cambridge and Isanti markets, having personnel the first four and last four weekends and then every other weekend in between. Isanti Farmers Market starts up the last Friday in May and Cambridge usually starts the first Saturday in May. He will find out about Braham Farmers Market and we will decide if we want to commit to that venue also. The question was raised if we would be having a booth at Green Barn. The Master Gardener coordinator will make that determination.

Yard and Garden Report: Poppy Irwin reported only one pruning question.

Coordinators Report: Joan Watson sent around a sign up sheet for hosting the meetings.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Beecroft
Secretary