

Isanti County Master Gardener Meeting

November 9, 2017.

Educational Presentation: “4 Seasons of Maintaining Garden Soil” by Beverly McLaughlin, Isanti County Master Gardener. Twenty-six people were present for the presentation.

Members Present: Alison Almos, Holly Anderson, Barb Barry, Gretchen Beecroft, Debbie Bodnar, Bonnie Boese, Mark Breeding, Rhonda Breeding, Duane Bunnell, Lucy Bunnell, Melissa Carstensen, Sandi Knolls, Michelle Kopp, Rebecca Kuehn, Beverly McLaughlin, John Nordin, Ruth Paschke, Ken Schroepfer, April Tighe, Katie Walker, Dawn Watson, Joan Watson, Carol Wood, Laura Yust, Wayne Yust.

Secretary’s Minutes: It was *moved, seconded and carried* to accept the October 12, 2017 minutes as distributed.

Treasurer’s Report: It was *moved, seconded and carried* to accept the treasurer’s report as presented.

Website Analytics: No report.

PICKM Meeting Report: Joan Watson reported that it was a great meeting with great food. Mary Meyer talked on the 10 most important plants in Minnesota.

Community Garden/City Meetings: John Nordin reported that he, along with Curt Becker from the community garden and Carla Trupe, has attended two separate meetings with the city. The current agreement seems to be valid. The city will include the community garden on the city map and web site. The city doesn’t want to spend money, but would rather contribute in kind. They will help by supplying compost of leaves and grass.

2018 Officers Approval: It was *moved, seconded and carried* to approve the following slate of officers for 2018: Melissa Carstensen, President; Katie Walker, Vice President; Nancy Carlson, Secretary; and Dawn Watson, Treasurer.

Community Garden Board Members Approval: Lucy Bunnell shared a list of current and proposed new members for the Community Garden Board. It was *moved, seconded and carried* that the new members of the Community Garden Board be approved.

Monthly Newspaper Articles: Carol Bray has shared articles written for the newspaper 2002-2013. These articles will be copied by Carla and returned to Carol. The articles are available as a resource for members of the group to use as reference for writing new articles. If one of Carol’s articles is used, please acknowledge her as co-author. Editors receiving copies of articles are from *Isanti County News, Cambridge Star, St. Francis Courier, Princeton Today, and Milaca Today*.

Bonnie Boese has volunteered to work with Joan on finding writers and submitting monthly articles. A writers sign up sheet was passed around at the meeting.

Burst Update: Holly Anderson reported that speakers have been confirmed. There are 1-2 open slots, but duplicate speakers may fill those sessions. So far the estimated costs have stayed under budget. Lucy Bunnell is working with People's cafe on the menu, Ruth Paschke will be sending information to vendors, and Melissa Carstensen will be submitting ads to papers. Please contact Ruth if you have any ideas for garden related vendors that you have seen at other horticultural events.

Holiday Party Plans: The IC Master Gardener Christmas party will be held on **Thursday, December 14**, at the Athens Township Hall located on 261st St. about 3/4 mile west of Highway 65. Social hour will be from 5:30-6:00 with the potluck meal starting between 6-6:15. **Bring food to share and a garden related gift worth no more than \$10.**

Yard and Garden Report: No calls.

MG Coordinator's Report: Members are encouraged to report their hours before the last week in December. Joan Watson reports these hours to the state and our activity can influence her hours and pay.

Allina Grant: John Nordin reported that we have an opportunity to submit a request for another Allina Grant. The group approved pursuing the grant. John will work on this.

Respectfully submitted,
Gretchen Beecroft
Secretary