**GCMG August Monthly Meeting Minutes – 8-15-19**

Location: Chris Swan’s backyard firepit patio.

Members Present: 16.

Hours: Education: 1¾ hours of touring gardens; support volunteer 1-hour meeting

The evening started with a tour of Marsha Schneider’s pollinator gardens at the Fennimore Doll Museum. Then we proceeded to Chris Swan’s home north of Fennimore to learn about her Hügelkultur garden.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Wendy Johnson at 7:45 pm. Roll call was taken by Secretary Connie Landon. Two corrections were made to last month’s minutes. Motion by Ken, second by Corey to approve the corrected minutes from our July meeting. Treasurer Connie Larson passed out her treasurer’s report. As of July 31, 2019, we have a balance of $3818.89. Connie also reported that she received an invitation to the UWP **2019 BILSA** Scholarship Banquet **to be held on Wednesday, September 11th**. Karin volunteered to attend to represent our organization.

Old Business:

1. Grant County Fair Booth: Melody talked about our Fair booth; the theme is “Historical Uses of Herbs and Other Plants”. She and Corey stated that they need more plants to fill in the display. She also said that our Master Gardener’s banner is old and needs to be replaced.
2. Platteville Farmers Market Booth: Corey and Shirley told us about their Master Gardener booth on **August** 10th with the subjects being jumping worms and tomato diseases. They had approximately 40 people stop by. Corey told us about the Platteville Farmers Market having a special kids’ program each Saturday morning. They are seeking donations for this project. We discussed it, agreed that it was a good idea, and agreed to donate $50 when we receive a formal request. Melody and Connie Landon will man the booth on September 28th.
3. Stone Cottage Workday: We will have two shifts of volunteers on Wednesday, September 25th. The first shift from 3 to 5 pm with Karin, Nancy, and Connie Landon working; The second shift is from 5 to 7 pm, if needed. We will be working on cleaning up the flowers in the fence area.
4. St. Mary’s School in Platteville Request: Connie Larson talked to the teacher, and there will be about 15 students in 3K through kindergarten. We agreed that springtime would be a better time to talk about gardening. Connie will ask her to contact us then to schedule a time to talk to her students. We discussed maybe using books and possibly the Veggie Tales video.
5. Bus Trip Committee: We discussed having shorter trips that are closer to home. Possible ideas were the Viroqua Market, LaCrosse, and Esofea Gardens near Westby. Corey, Karin, and Ken volunteered for the committee. We will try to have the trip sometime in June.
6. Spring Conference Update: Shirley gave an update on our spring conference to be held on Saturday, March 21, 2020. We have four speakers. Jo Reynolds reported that we have six display tables so far, and we would like to have more. We will have a committee planning meeting in September.
7. Food Wise Gardens Update: Judy Vesperman and Chris Swan gave updates on their Lancaster and Boscobel garden plots and their donations to the food pantry in each town.

New Business:

1. Belmont School Fair Booth: It will be held on September 13 – 15. We do not need to man the booth that entire time; just set it up and take it down. Companion planting was suggested, and Corey and Shirley volunteered to take care of it.
2. MGV Calendar for Next Year: Wendy brought up whether to have monthly meetings in January and May. Corey motioned that we do have a monthly meeting in May, Nancy A. seconded it, motion passed. There will be no December or January meetings, and we will move the March meeting up to a week before the conference.
3. UWP Scholarship Banquet: See discussion in Treasurer’s report.
4. Level 1 and Super Star Training: Level 1 MGV training will be held in January with possibly six people interested. Super Star training in Madison will be held on Saturday, September 14th. Karin and Shirley are attending, and we will reimburse them each for their $15 entry fee.
5. September Refreshments: Our September meeting will be back at the Youth & Ag on September 19th @ 6:30. Jenna Phillips will be our speaker educating us on “Herbal Teas, Jams, & Jellies”. Nancy M. and Ken will provide snacks and refreshments.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm; motion by Ken, second by Nancy M.

Connie Landon, Secretary

Corrected doc 8-28-19