

Meeting Minutes for July 19, 2018

Terry brought the meeting to order and introduction of guests was made.

Connie gave the Treasurers report – we currently have a balance of \$5361.98.

Ken made a motion to accept report and Marilyn seconded. Motion was passed.

Secretarys report was distributed – Corey made a motion to accept and Shirley seconded. Motion passed.

Terry announced that no new entries were submitted for plants with animal names for the Fair. She has a list of possible suggestions for anyone that is interested.

Help is needed for weeding/trimming the bed around the Youth/Ag Bldg. Judy Vesperman is in charge of this project with assistance from Margie and Connie Landon.

The bus trip was reviewed – there were lots of hostas and lilies. Many positive comments for the Hosta Farm – many different varieties and many were for sale. Some disappointment for the arboretum was expressed – no wow effect. The Children's gardens were expanded and a new Healing Garden was added and there were gardens representing different countries.

This year, small prizes were given to each person attending. One person suggested having fewer door prizes as in the past. It was noted that the Land of the Giants provided 3 Hosta's as door prizes.

Wendy reviewed the plant sale. Prices were raised somewhat from last year, but it was a good sale. There was a discussion on possibly discontinuing the ad in Shopping News and possibly putting ads in individual papers. It was decided that the road signs would be kept with individuals responsible for putting out at Plant sale time as storage for the group takes a lot of space. A suggestion was made that if we were unable to have the plant sale, that a bulb sale would be an alternative idea for our group. They could be ordered and/or brought from member's gardens. Connie will contact group that are doing this and will report back to us. May be used if jumping worms become an issue. In 2019, house

plants should be in 6" pots. Also, Karin P. suggested that we plant bulbs in March/April timeframe so they would be blooming by sale time. Other suggestions were to mark down price on plants when there is an abundance of a particular plant, put handouts in boxes in holding areas, and assure that Wendy's area are on posters.

On July 21st, there will be a native prairie walk at the home of Margie starting at 3 PM. Let her know if you will be attending.

Corey brought an example of possible signage in the MG gardens – he will have his friend make up a sample for our review.

Thank you's were distributed from Highland second graders for Marilyn's garden project.

The Storywalk Project was discussed – Terry read a description of what it is. Books should have a gardening theme. Nancy suggested donating 3 books and by September, standards should be in place and kits would be available. It would be approximately \$30.00 for the 3 books and each library in the area would be contacted to see who might be interested. There are 12 libraries in Grant County. Corey made a motion to have 3 titles pertaining to gardening up to 12 for each library for \$30.00 per library. Chris Carl seconded – motion carried.

Reporting hours may be ready to be reported on line – may not be this year.

There are grants available in the amount of \$400.00, \$250.00, and \$100.00 – Terry has information and guidelines.

Corey reported on the Gardens, Greens, and Gadgets to be held on August 1st at Vesperman Farms which includes cooking demonstrations and kid's activities. Corey will be making salsa and Chris Carl will be making meatless meatballs, encouraging kids to eat more vegetables. Two gift baskets are necessary for prizes – Corey is filling with vegetables so any members garden items are welcome. Volunteers at this point are Nancy M., Judy, Brian and Connie, Karin and Shirley. If anyone would like to help, volunteers should come by 5 PM.

Our next MG meeting will be August 9 which is Pizza Night at Vesperman Farms at 6:30 PM

There was a question on the Garlic Farm which had requested some members to do a peer review for certification on their organic farm. Mike Maddox said that we should not do a peer review as we are not qualified to do so.