

Mille Lacs County Master Gardener Meeting Minutes January 16, 2019 - Immanuel Lutheran Church, Princeton

Type of meeting: General Meeting - 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order: Sandy Bronson

Secretary: Nancy Winkelman

Attendees: Sandy Bronson, Nancy Winkelman, Jenny Kick, Lynell Barthel, Bonnie Zurek, Linda Talvitie and Linda Johnson.

Approval of last meeting minutes: Nancy motioned to approve minutes and Bonnie seconded the motion.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$818.55 - approved subject to audit. Need to refund Joan Bullivant \$50.00 for Scholarship fee. Sandy also has Joan's Master Gardener Certificate and Pin for her.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Update on Intern Linda Johnson:** Linda is attending the Master Gardener training down at the MN Landscape Arboretum and said everything is going well.
- 2. Grant for Community Garden:** Bonnie will contact Joan & Randy to check on it.
- 3. Core Course on now:** We can get educational credits by taking the core course free of charge by completing a form. For coordinators and staff: <https://z.umn.edu/3w34>
For active volunteers: <https://z.umn.edu/3w35>
- 4. Display Case:** We will first check with Diane - she said she may be able to work on it. If not, we should look into finding someone who can do upholstery work to resize it for us.
- 5. State Office Report:** Went over the State Office Report as a group - Sandy will submit the report sometime this week.
- 6. Horticulture Days:** The following are some Hort Days that were brought up - let each other know if you are going for carpool purposes!
 - **March 9th**, 8 a.m.-2:45 p.m. - Stearns County "Gardening Education Day " at the Gorecki Center, College of St Benedict in St. Joseph, \$30 which includes lunch and materials. Online sign-up: z.umn.edu/GardenEdDay
 - **March 30** - Wright County "Spring Days Gardening Workshop & Expo" at the St. Michael-Albertville Middle School West.
 - **April 6**, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. - Pine County "Let's Get Growing", Pine City High School. Advance registration, \$25 after April 1 or day of event

2019 Goals of Mille Lacs County Master Gardener Program

- 1. Teach a Gardening Class - suggestions include:**
 - Ask the Library if anyone has been asking about classes.
 - Sandy will ask the Horticulture teacher at the High School about holding a class.
 - Bonnie will ask Randy about classes for the Community Garden - they do not want a Power Point presentation.
 - Connecting with home-school kids.
 - Local Gardening Clubs - Sandy & Diane will talk with them.
- 2. Plot at Community Garden:** Bonnie said it was brought up at a Community Garden meeting about having a Perennial Herb Community Garden. After group discussion, Lynell motioned for us to take on the project and have a plot; Nancy seconded the motion.
 - Have a planning session at our April 17 meeting by first meeting at the Depot to look the plot over.

- Linda Johnson suggested having a "Little Free Library" installed at the plot site. Linda said she would build the Library and everyone could help fill it up with books and pamphlets about herbs and gardening (see photo).
- Shirley and Bonnie will try to work on garden design with asking for help from Diane.
- We discussed the concept of everyone signing up for 1 to 1-1/2 week intervals to weed and water the plot.
- The Community Garden could charge an extra \$2.00 for gardeners to come and just take any herbs from the garden whenever they want.
- We can plant the Herb Garden during our plant sale on May 18 with potentially utilizing some type of mulch to make upkeep easier.



- 3. Plant Sale:** We will hold a plant sale again this year on May 18 from 9 a.m.-Noon. It has worked well in the past. We will discuss plans for it at our April 17 meeting. Linda Talvitie will ask the Depot if we can use their spot again.
- 4. Participation in Seed Trials:** Lynell and Jenny expressed interest in doing again.
- 5. Articles for Newspapers:** Let us know if anyone is interested in writing an article.
- 6. Master Gardener Booth:** We should discuss having one at the Princeton Business Expo next year at the end of this year since it is in March. We could also consider the Farmers Market or the Rum River Festival.
- 7. Tree Distribution with SWCD:** Watch for e-mail from Lynn to see if she needs help this year.
- 8. County Fair:** August 7-11. We will have a meeting on July 24 at Lynell's house for planning purposes. Come to the March 20th meeting with ideas - herbs was suggested.
- 9. PICKM Meeting:** In Princeton at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Oct. 22. We will meet Sept. 11 to plan. We will ask Shirley to contact Prairie Restorations to see if they have a speaker who would like to come. If not, Sandy will talk to Lynn about asking Jake Janski to speak on Minnesota Native Landscapes. Things to start thinking about: Should we have assigned seats; What each county should bring for pot luck; Door prizes, Centerpieces and someone suggested playing human bingo.
- 10. Helen Yarmoska - Gardening:** Lives in Hennepin and has a year round cabin in Aitkin. She has asked to come to our meetings - Sandy will check into this.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Linda T. motioned to adjourn the meeting, Lynell seconded.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

- **March 20**, 4:30 at Immanuel Lutheran Church - Come with ideas for Outing(s) and for the County Fair. Also start discussing the PICKM and create a flyer to send out.
- **April 17**, 4:30 at the Depot Community Garden Plot, then at Immanuel Lutheran Church, - Community Herb Garden and Plant Sale planning session.
- **July 24**, at Lynell's house in Princeton - County Fair planning for Aug. 7-11.
- **Sept. 11**, 4:30 at Immanuel Lutheran Church - PICKM planning for Oct. 22.
- **Nov. 13**, 4:45 at Milaca Courthouse - Go over the year, how PICKM went and discuss the possibility of having a booth at the Princeton Business Expo next year.