Big Spring Master Gardener Association
Meeting Minutes

Date: April 9, 2013
Place: Greene County Extension Office
Time: 10 am- 12pm

Meeting: Association Monthly Meeting

Attendees: Heather Youngblood, Sandee Cook, Virginia Williams, Lamar Neas, Jerry Kische, Gretchen Jay, Danny Crum, Diane R. Crum, Patricia Hayes, Jeanne Driese, Pat Moore, Michele Bradley, Diane Thompson, Bob Fleegle, Emily Grubbs, Melody Rose.

Secretary's Report: Reviewed. Diane Crum motioned to approve, Gretchen seconded.

Treasurer's Report:

Apr 2013 Financial Report

Mar			Project
Beginning balance	**5459.78**		
		30.00	2013 Dues
		20.00	MG Shirt
		300.00	Ann Cook NHC Donation
Income:	**350.00**		
		(300.00)	Ann Cook NHC Donation
		(100.00)	Advance - Crockett Birthplace
Expenses:	**(400.00)**		
Ending balance	**5409.78**		

Dues collected from:

Baumgardner, Loveit	Jay, Gretchen
Bradley, Michele	Kische, Jerry
Cardwell, Dianna	McCracken, Larry
Crum, Diane & Danny	Moore, Pat
Driese, Jeanne	Neas, Lamar
Fleegle, Bob	Nott, Randi
Grimes, Sandee	Thompson, Diane
Grubbs, Emily	Walker, Bev
Hayes, Patricia	Williams, Virginia
Hembree, Beth	Youngblood, Heather

Extension Update-Melody

- **2013 MG Trip**-Melody posted an online survey/quiz for members to answer to help decide the destination for this year. Jeanne Driese had the most correct answers and won the book, "Managing Cover Crops Profitably". Melody is still researching the trip details and will share information soon.
- **2013 MG class** has 14 students. April 11th-Lockwood; Small Fruits, April 23rd-Conlon; Basic Botany & Interior Plants
- **Reminder**: Send calendar/event information to Melody for the website. Also, take lots of pictures of your committee/project activities to share on the website!
- **Organic Field Crops Tour/Knoxville-April 24th**
- **BSMGA Presentation**- Melody has been working on and shared a promotional slide show/presentation showcasing the BSMGA program and all its activities. Thanks go to Melody for a wonderful piece!
- **April 25th 12-1pm at Extension Office "Strawberries with a Purpose"** All you ever wanted to know about strawberries! Snack on locally grown strawberries with mint and thyme while you learn about production in limited space. Take home recipes and growing information! Register by April 22. $3.00 per person

Nathaneal Greene Museum-Emily and Pat met at the meeting this morning and decided on the following work days:
April 18th 8am (19th raindate)-Mulching/Weeding
May 15th 8am (16th raindate)-Planting petunias, blanketflowers, mondo fern, pachysandra
Earl Fletcher with the museum has indicated that he will be responsible for planting the window boxes this year. MGs will provide the mondo fern to go in the pot by the entrance.

Spring Plant Sale-Diane explained that costs are considerably higher this year.The committee had to purchase all the supplies needed this year, except for some plastic that Sandee gave us. Last year, Sandee hosted the project at her greenhouse, and paid for the supplies used in advance. She generously invoiced the group only for what was actually sold, instead of the total for all the supplies used. The 2013 project budget was based on that invoice amount and the project has already gone $300 over budget. Diane has paid the difference out-of-pocket. Still to purchase are hanging baskets, soil for these, and labels.
Melody has posters advertising the sale, and MGs are encouraged to hang them in stores, businesses, etc. now.
April 15th 1pm-Committee meets at Extension Lab to finalize plans
TBA- label workshop
May 3rd 9am-Cleanup Commercial Building at Fairgrounds, 1pm-transport plants from greenhouse to Fairgrounds.
May 4th 9am-4pm Plant Sale-all MGs are expected to help out because this is a major fundraiser for the organization

Boys & Girls Club- The club will be purchasing a 5' x 8' greenhouse. Bob Fleegle will help assemble it. It will be used to teach the children about gardening. Kathy, with B & G Club, has agreed to maintain it, keep plants watered, etc.
April 11th 4pm-MGs meeting at B & G Club to prepare the garden and plant early spring plants. Help is needed!
During summer break, MGs will be at the club once each week, Mondays at 10am. More MG volunteers will be needed. Groups are now limited to 12 kids.

Sustainability Fare-Jeanne says vendor applications are now ready to distribute. Any MGs interested in being a vendor should contact Jeanne now. Bob will build a sandwich board sign to be used at the event to share information with visitors.

Posters advertising the event are now available. MGs are encouraged to begin hanging them in businesses, stores, etc.

Fairgrounds Landscaping-Gretchen-BSMGA has agreed to plant a bed at the fairgrounds in return for the use of the commercial building for our Spring Plant Sale and Sustainability Fare. This is another great opportunity to get our name out to the community. Ann Gaut of Ann's Greenhaus will provide the plants and cross ties for the bed. Several MGs are meeting today at 1pm to clean up and assess the bed. A planting day will be announced.

Fox Park Historic Garden-Gretchen-Nathaneal Greene Museum's Fox Park Committee has required the name change from "Greeneville Friendship Heritage Garden" to "Fox Park Historic Garden".
Right now, water supply is the biggest issue. Lois Blanks, NG Museum board member, has contacted the city, and they have located the water meter for the property. Plans are to hook to the meter and run a water line to a frost-proof hydrant near the garden. The water bill is expected to be $9.00/month. There have been two workdays so far with some beds laid out and some cole crops planted. Fundraising is needed, and a farm-to-table dinner is being considered for late summer. Saturday, April 13th Christ United Methodist Church is hosting a Breakfast Fundraiser for the garden. Eagle Scouts will be working on a period appropriate fence around the garden and mulching the walkways. The Youth Council and Key Club at Greeneville High School is also interested in helping with the garden.
May 18th -Shades of Greene Spring Garden Tour 10-4pm in Historic Greeneville. We hope to have the garden ready to be a destination for this event.

New Hope Cemetery-Patricia Pat fertilized the grass last week, reseeded and added clover in bare spots. The grass looks great, and compliments are being received from family members and visitors. Pat made some very nice plant markers for the perennials and added them to the beds. The reception at Nathaneal Greene Museum was very successful and led to a possible outreach program with Tusculum College. Historians will be exploring whether any of the soldiers buried in the cemetery might be eligible for medals or awards.
April 22nd- Clean up day
April 29th- Compost will be added to plantings.
Randi has asked the city to add an earthen bridge for a walkway across the ditch.
Ann Cook has donated $300 to the project, which will be used for mushroom compost, and metal edging. The group is looking for church groups to keep the cemetery mowed. Larry will be working on the irrigation system soon. Still waiting to hear back from Modern Woodsman group about a $500 grant.

Tabernacle Garden-no news

Kids Day on the Farm-Lamar
May 6th -1-4pm Prep Day
May 7th- 8-3pm Event (MGs are needed by 7:30am and afterwards to help clean up)
May 8th rain date

Project Review-Sandee The committee will set a date to meet next week to go over the reviews that have been received for this quarter.

Budget-Loveit-No report

Davy Crockett Birthplace Garden-Jerry There is a new park manager, Ken Tester, that will be our contact person. Heather will touch base with him at the Pioneer Friends meeting this Thursday. Jerry has started tomato seeds in the greenhouse at Summerfield. He has also gone out to the park and sprayed weeds in the garden area. He briefly discussed fence repair with Ken, who has indicated that he will make sure the work is done by park staff.
Workdays-TBA

New Business

Next meeting is Tuesday, May 14th 10 am at the extension office
Remember to sign up for 2013 projects!

Minutes respectfully submitted by Heather Youngblood, BSMGA secretary