

Big Spring Master Gardener Association Meeting Minutes

Date: September 9, 2014

Place: Greene County Extension Office

Time: 10 am

Meeting: Association Monthly Meeting

Attendees: Heather Youngblood, Lamar Neas, Virginia Williams, Phyllis Conner, Michele Bradley, Bev Walker, Mary Goldman, Dianna Cardwell, Jeanie Jackson, Pat Moore, Martha Fluharty, Wolf Spindel, Penny Humphreys, Bob Fleegle, Jerry Kische, Ken Harrison, Patricia Hayes, Diane Crum

Meeting was called to order by President Lamar Neas

July Minutes-Stand as written with an amendment to the **Tusculum View Elementary report** as follows: *Bev Walker will not be taking over the project. The project has been tabled until spring, when Randi Nott and Patricia Hayes will continue as Chairpersons.*

Treasurer's Report-Michele

Sept 2014 Financial Report

Beginning balance	7748.80
Booth fees/Donation - SusFare	15.00
Income:	15.00
Tabernacle Mission Soup Kitchen - stove	(200.00)
Expenses:	(200.00)
Ending balance	7563.80

Committees and Project Reports-Lamar

Boys and Girls Club-Virginia

Virginia said that the groundhog is still a problem. They are trying to convince the B&G Club to turn the bottom of the fence under to deter the groundhog from digging under. If this project is approved by the club, volunteers will be needed. Virginia brought in a sample of a mystery plant that is growing in the garden for identification.

Cookbook Fundraiser

None sold since last month. Cookbooks will be available at the Sustainability Fare and Mary Goldman will prepare several recipes from the cookbook for faregoers to sample.

Dickson-Williams-Heather

The special event at the mansion in August which observed the 150th Anniversary of the death of John Hunt Morgan was very well attended. The garden restoration project was discussed with visitors and everyone is excited to see the project unfold. The first phase of the project will begin this fall, with an evergreen screen being planted along the property line to hide the Depot Street buildings.

Fairgrounds Landscape-Pat

Pat cleaned up the beds last week and says the flowers are looking great.

Food Bank

Fall planting will begin this month.

MG Lab

No report

Nathanael Greene-Jerry

Jerry has weeded the beds and pruned the Sweet Gum tree that was growing into the fire truck display.

New Hope Cemetery-Patricia

September 16th will be a work day. An Eagle Scout will be working on a pergola at the entrance. Tusculum College students will help.

Hickory nuts need to be picked up and some plants need to be moved and new ones need to be planted.

Patricia asked for help with watering while she recovers from surgery. She would like to plant pansies soon, if they can be kept watered. Pat volunteered.

2015 Plant Sale-Mary & Phyllis

The committee met this morning at the greenhouse. The sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 9. Plant selections will include heirlooms, herbs, flowers, companion plants. Special displays will be available to educate customers on the care and use of different plants.

The committee asks all MGs to think about perennials in their gardens at home that they can divide and share with the group to sell that day.

The event will be advertised in the Greeneville Sun, the Greeneville Neighbor and on social media. January's monthly membership meeting will be held at the greenhouse.

Plans are in place to make minding the greenhouse more "user friendly", with education sessions and better signage to help newcomers with caring for the plants.

In January, planting will start with flowers for hanging baskets and perennials.

Soup Kitchen-Mary

The garden has been phenomenal this year and plans are to expand it to a community garden, including a produce stand. The MG garden beds will continue to be inside the fence and the community garden will be outside.

The new stove purchased with the MG gift is in place in the kitchen. Mary shared a thank you note written to the BSMGA along with a photo of the stove.

Sustainability Fare & Expo-Bev

The big sign will go up this afternoon at the Greeneville Federal Bank in front of the fairgrounds. Volunteers are needed to help Pat at the gate and Jeanie at the building entrance.

The building will open Friday at 1pm for MGs to clean up and get ready for vendors, who will be setting up between 4 & 7pm.

Saturday morning, MGs are asked to be there at 8 am.

Kids Day 2015-Lamar

Lamar suggested that we provide something for the kids to take home from the event, such as bee-friendly flower seeds. Diane said that the TN Wildlife Resource Agency might provide them for free, as she had received seeds from them at an event recently. She said she would email him with the information on the packet. Wolf suggested that BSMGA and Davy Crockett Beekeepers might work together that day to promote planting wildflowers for pollinators. Bev suggested a Monarch Butterfly education station.

Old Business

The soup kitchen stove has been purchased.

New Business

none

Meeting adjourned at 10:43 am

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 14th 6 pm

minutes respectfully submitted by Heather Youngblood, BSMGA Secretary