

Ozark Prairie Master Gardeners
August 23, 2018 meeting
Mary Ella Zimmerman's home

Following a bountiful carry-in dinner at the home of Mary Ella Zimmerman, President Earlene Britton called the August meeting to order. Motion by Larry Lackey, second by Melody Bonar to approve the minutes of the June meeting as presented via email to members. MC. Motion by Melody Bonar, second by Carol Buck to approve the treasurer's report as presented by Dan Britton. MC (As of August 22, 2018 the following balances were presented: Savings \$5,032.66, Checking \$3,531.86, Petty Cash \$226.00 for a total balance of \$8,790.52. Dan Britton presented two bills totaling \$15.42 and Mary Ella reported a bill of \$26.40.) Peggy Huhmann collected MG hours.

Committee Reports

Community Garden. Mary Ella said she had planted green beans, lettuce, and spinach. All are up and growing well. She has broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower ready to plant this Saturday. The group agreed to meet Saturday at 8:00 a.m. to plant vegetables.

Pollinator Garden. Joann Billington discussed the fenced area intended for compost. Presently, there are two trees growing in the unused area. The group agreed to tear down the fence and cut the trees. Dan Britton will bring a trailer Saturday morning and a saw. Anyone willing to help with either undertaking at 8:00 a.m. Saturday is welcome.

Education Committee/Advanced Training. No report on upcoming events was available. Earlene Britton did report on the Eating Healthy 1, 2, 3 class. There were 11 attendees and adequate help from OPMG members. The people were very receptive, and Carol Jones told of a person who expressed her appreciation for the class and was interested in more classes. The committee will continue with more classes in the future.

Yard of the Month. Carol Jones reported that the August YOM has been selected and the information forwarded to the newspaper. Those interested will meet Wednesday, Sept 5 at Westview Parking lot – 9:30 – to make the September selection. Members noted a marked improvement in the appearance of private properties in town since the beginning of the YOM program. Members recommended the chamber needs to promote beautification with the businesses.

Old Business

Morgan County Fair. Larry Lackey reported the 2018 Morgan County Fair was a great success. Andi and Earlene should be congratulated for co-chairing the Home Ec Building. Entries were up again this year, especially with youth and baked goods. The bake sale earned over \$1000. OPMG won a purple ribbon for their scrapbook. Several OPMG had prize winning entries. Clover Kids helped clean initially and also cleaned up after the fair. OPMG contributed many helpers. 4-H entries were up and the livestock show was a big show. The livestock, ham, and bacon sale brought in over \$2900.

Field Day September 15, 2018 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. A sign-up sheet is being circulated for people to man the registration table. Larry Lackey will take care of parking. Dan will need help

on Thursday, Sept 13 at the Home Ec building to load up tables. (9:30 am.) He will need help early on the 15th to set up tables, chairs, tents.

Multi-County Dinner. November 1 (Thursday) at the Hunter Civic Center. Theme is "Back Yard Birding". Mary Ella will cater. 5:30 registration. 6:00 meal. Speaker and other activities to follow the speaker. We will decorate with bird-related items. If you can contribute items for table decorations that will also be awarded as door prizes, let the committee know. We will need people to help. Sign-up sheets will be available at the September and October meetings.

New Business

State Association. Quarterly meeting will be Friday, Sept 7 in Columbia at the Boone County Extension Office. Carol Buck is going.

Bricks for the museum. Earlene reported bricks for the museum have been purchased but they have not yet been engraved. Dan will contact the families of the honorees to determine if and what kind of ceremony they would like.

Letter of Support. Earlene reported they had a phone call from the City of Laurie. The city is applying for a grant for a community garden. They asked for a letter of support from OPMG. Dan will write the letter stating OPMG will support the project with the understanding OPMG will be available for consultation only. Motion by Karen Wilson, second by Joann Billington to provide the letter. MC.

Dean reported his experience pruning a giant cactus plant. As a result, he has many baby cacti plants for anyone who wants starts.

Mary Ella reported on the Tomato Festival in Columbia Sept 6 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.. 220 varieties of tomatoes are available for tasting and evaluating at the Bradford Research Center. Attendees can also tour the farm. This year they have been experimenting with attracting Monarch butterflies.

Melody Bonar reminded the group of the Central Missouri Produce tour on August 29.

New/Returning members. Heather _____ and Paulette MacMurtry are interested in becoming master gardeners. Karla Piper, Fern Vogt, and Don Burke are interested in rejoining OPMG.

Joni Harper Ross said members can reorder name badges. Contact Joni.

Carol Buck invited all to come visit her in her newly-glassed in deck!

Motion by Mary Ella, second by Dean to adjourn. MC. Next meeting is September 27 and Dan and Earlene Britton's home.

Clarice Nelson, Secretary