

Ozark Prairie Master Gardeners
Minutes of the March 22, 2018 meeting
Hunter Civic Center, Versailles

The OPMG met at the Hunter Civic Center at 6:00 p.m. for the usual generous and varied carry-in dinner.

President Earlene Britton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The minutes, previously sent to members, were approved by a motion from Lois Weber, second by Pat Morris. MC. Treasurer Pam Dull presented the treasurer's report. Dan Britton commented that additional funds would be needed to finance the upcoming plant sale. Motion by Carol Buck, seconded by Andi Woodson to add \$400 more to the allowed funds for materials and advertising. MC. Motion by Mary Ella Zimmerman, second by Larry Lackey to approve the treasurer's report. MC. (Savings - \$5,030.02, Checking - \$1,525.60, Petty Cash - \$165.00. Total Balance - \$6,320.62)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Garden - Mary Ella reported that it has been too cold to work so far, but she will call those who volunteered when it is warm enough to work. (See related event below.) Sue Aiken reported that the Food Pantry wanted us to put their food waste into our compost. Members decided against the idea since we couldn't control the input, and the chance of offensive odors might be objectionable to neighbors.

Pollinator Garden - Joann reported lots of plants are coming up. She proposed a workday on Monday, April 2 to clean out the plot. Members agreed that if several people attended, both the pollinator garden and the community garden could be cleaned. Dan B. volunteered to haul away the waste. Clean-up scheduled from 10:00 am to 12:00 on April 2.

Education Committee/Advanced Training - Andi Woodson presented several members with certificates of completion.

- Quiz 3 is available for members along with printed information related to the quiz.
- She announced that the Education Committee is meeting April 4 at 4:00 p.m. at Earlene's room at the High School. Interested persons are welcome to attend.
- Apple grafting won't be offered this year, but we will try to schedule it for next February.
- Andi needs 3 - 6 master gardeners to help with the tomato-planting program at the Food Pantry. Carol Jones volunteered to contact Debbie at the pantry to facilitate the Dirt to Dinner Table event. There is a possibility that this could be held at the pantry's facility.
- The group set September 15 as the date for the Field Day at Britton's home. We will need to look for a food vendor for that date.
- Members were reminded of the State Master Gardeners Conference in Branson September 28-30.

Plant Sale -

- Dan Britton reported that most of the plants have been repotted and sent out to the individual greenhouses for growing. Early plants are available tonight after the meeting for those OPMG programs and then for members.
- Mary Ella reported that she has 300 strawberry plants in pots and that the flower baskets are under way. Cedar Hill has a number of blooming trees and bushes for us for the

sale. Joann has ordered the native plants discussed last month. A list of available plants is on the table for members.

- Joann mentioned at Osage Beach on March 29 (1:00 - 3:30), there will be an interesting presentation on controlling erosion and attracting bees and butterflies.
- Joann also review the details of plans for the club's plant sale on April 20, 21. We will follow the format and organization we used last year. Meet on Friday at 11:00 a.m. at the fairgrounds to help set up. Lunch will be at Pioneer Restaurant at 12:00. After lunch, organize, price, and display plants until 5:00 p.m. Dinner at Vera Cruz. 6:00 p.m. members can purchase plants they want. (Cash is best, and please take plants home with you.) Plant sale opens Saturday to public at 7:30 am - closes at 1:30.

OLD BUSINESS

Jr. Master Gardener's Program - Carol Jones reported that the first meeting is scheduled for March 27 at 3:30 p.m. at the green house. The second meeting is scheduled for April 4 at 1:30. We need master gardeners present at both meetings.

State Association - Dan reported that the code of conduct papers have been submitted but not sure whether or not they were received. Carol Buck discussed the MOMA lifetime memberships. Andi W. will send out the application form to everyone.

Fruit Tree Care - Israel did a great job with the fruit tree pruning workshop. Will probably skip it next year, though.

Dale Winery Grape pruning event - Jessie was very happy with attendance and results. Possibly this could be scheduled again for next year with OPMG helping and opening the event to others.

Wal-Mart Gardening Center opening - Carol Jones reminded members this event is April 6 & 7 from 10:00 - 2:00.

West Central Food Pantry meeting - Carol Jones reported the meeting was attended by a large, varied group of people. OPMG was offered the use of the facility for our meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

- Pam Dull described a possible trip to Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds in Mansfield, MO for the Supreme Planting Festival May 6-7. Admission is \$5.00. Check the website for more information.
- April 7 is AgriForestry Day.
- Reminder that the Plant Sale will take the place of the regular April meeting.

PROGRAM

The scheduled landscaping program was cancelled due to the large amount of business and the need for members to complete related tasks at the close of the business meeting.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: May 17 at Dale Hollow Winery in Stover. 6:00 p.m. Pot Luck followed by meeting.

Clarice Nelson, Secretary