

**Ozark Prairie Master Gardeners
Minutes of the June 28, 2018 meeting
Hunter Civic Center, Versailles**

The Ozark Prairie Master Gardeners met at 6:00 p.m. at the Hunter Civic Center in Versailles for a carry-in dinner. The business meeting followed the enjoyable meal.

President Earlene Britton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p .m.

Opening Procedures

Motion by Andi, second by Pat to approve the May 17, 2018 minutes as presented. (Members received emailed/standard mail copies of the minutes prior to the meeting.) MC. In Pam's absence, Dan presented the treasurer's report. (Copy attached in the secretary's book.) Savings \$5,031.40, Checking \$3,618.97, Petty Cash \$212.00. Total \$8,862.37 No bills were presented. Motion by Dean, second by Mary Ella to approve the treasurer's report. MC. Members were asked to submit MG hours for the month to Earlene in Peggy's absence.

Committee Reports

1. Community Garden. Mary Ella reported that No-Till does not work! The weeds are rampant and need to be killed. Dan will spot spray on Monday to kill weeds, and then Mary Ella can schedule a work day to deal with the dead weeds. The tomatoes and peppers are doing beautifully.
2. Pollinator Garden. Joann reported the dogbane has gotten a foothold in the garden and needs to be removed. Monarch butterflies do not like it and it is invasive. Also, Japanese beetles are attacking the New England asters. We need a solution other than Sevin since that will kill the pollinators.
3. Education Committee/Advance Training.
 - The Healthy Eating 1, 2, 3 planning group met to explore various foods on Wed, June 20. The group is planning an event on August 8 from 5:30 to 7:30 (limited to the first 30 who register) for the community. OPMG members will be cooking and presenting foods for tasting to the group while discussing preparation methods and nutritional information. The foods will be designed for various diets. We will need OPMG members to help serve food. Next committee meeting is July 25 at the Simmons room.
 - Joann reported that Sheila Morse, an educator and permaculture proponent, will let us tour her property in Greenview, Mo on Tue, Sept 18 or Sat, Sept 22. We will need to do a sign-up in August.
 - Dan reported on the NatureCITE Prairie Day he and Earlene attended. The sessions addressed the history of prairies, their evolution, and how to evaluate the health and value of a prairie.
 - Joann described the Master Pollinator Steward program and recommended it highly for anyone interested. Joni added more information and is willing to try to get this course for us in Versailles.
4. Yard of the Month. Mary Ella reported in Carol's absence. No selection was made in June due to other activities. Those willing will meet at 1:00 p.m. at Westview parking lot on Tuesday, July 17 immediately following the Multi-County Dinner planning meeting at Pioneer Restaurant at 11:00 a.m. Email or call Earlene or Mary Ella if you can help with Garden of the Month.

Old Business

1. Dan and Earlene went to the State Association Meeting on June 1. New: a new company is now in charge of background checks. After we complete the initial check with this company, we will not have to do another.
2. The organizers of the Chestnut Festival in New Franklin on October 6 would like to have MG set up a table of information at the festival.
3. Note that all MG clubs have a page on the State Association Website. We need to recruit a webmaster and establish the page.
4. Reminder that the State Convention is coming up.
5. Earlene has statistics compiled from the on-line survey MG took several months ago.
6. Dan reported that a new chair is needed for life-time memberships.
7. Earlene mentioned that several groups shared activities that their club enjoyed such as a winter book club.
8. The Co-Mo annual meeting was very hot!. OPMG had several people present and spoke to a number of attendees regarding the MG program.
9. Dan updated the members on the June 6 meeting of the August 15 Field Day committee. They are hoping to get NicNac Concessions in California to provide food. At present we have speakers for 8 stations and will plan for 10:00 – 2:00 presentations. Ads, insurance, registration, and parking are all taken care of. Bryan Jones band will provide music. Dan will let members know of the next Field Day planning meeting.
10. Dan did contact the Kelly Nursery. When the new catalog comes out in August, they will set up an account at that time.
11. The Food Pantry event went very well. Lots of interest, fun planting tomatoes and distributing seeds.

New Business

1. Morgan County Fair (July 11-14) Larry really needs help on Wednesday night and Thursday morning. He also needs helpers for judges. Andi and Earlene will conduct a class at 5:00 p.m. in Wed, July 11 addressing how to take entries for the fair for those who need the information.
2. Multi-County Dinner in November. We are hosting this year. Generally held on the first Thursday, so we should plan on Nov 1 or Nov 8. Contact Earlene if you want to help. A planning meeting is scheduled for July 17 at 11:00 at Pioneer (Lunch meeting). NOTE: Yard of Month committee will meet at 1:00 in the parking lot.
3. Joni announced that Extension will have their annual Family Night on August 27 at 6:30 at the Hunter Civic Center. OPMG members are invited.

Next Meeting: August 23, 2018 at Mary Ella Zimmerman's home. (The July Fair activities take the place of a July meeting.)

Clarice Nelson, Secretary