SEWMG Business Meeting Minutes  
Date February 9th 2011

Members Present: 28

Meeting was called to order by: by President Mary Thiele at 9:35am, she welcomed us with a new “nuggets” segment, which was a few of the highlights of some of the meetings/workshops that have been held so far this year. Mary also added a brief segment of your favorite garden tool, which seemed to be of interest to those present.

Consumer Horticulture Agent: Sharon Morrisey gave a brief account of up-coming events that we might want to attend. She also passed around a new Garden Fact sheet on Field Ants.

Prior Meeting Minutes: were read by Secretary Mary Redlinger and approved as read.

Treasurer’s Report: was given by Treasurer Joy Towell and approved.

Old Business:
1. Patty Witt gave us an update on the Garden Support Committee and the Opportunity Fair.
2. The Tabletop and Display Committee has been developing display boards to be used by SEWMG when giving large presentations, Janet Wintersberger gave this report.
3. Life-long Gardening Committee gave a brief report on what they are trying to accomplish this year. One of these goals is to ease the “pot-a-thon”(formerly called “digs) experience for many of our MGV. This report was given by MaryClare Waller, Judy Savage and Mary Redlinger.
4. Mike Yanny’s presentation on Saturday was discussed. Concern about the size of the room, we had more than 100 people come and the other complications that occurred. The fact that more than 40% of the people that came said they were unable to attend continuing education programs on weekday/night, shows that this is definitely something that needs to be addressed.
5. Bill Shaffer gave us a run down on what is going on with the Plant Sale. He stated that the first meeting went well and was well attended-with many “newbies”. He also stated that he was excited to be working with the Life-long committee, and that another storage locker will be added soon.

New Business:
1. Carla Magnus will head up a new committee for fund raisers in the future.
2. Mary Thiele asked us all to think about nominating one of our members for the Inspire by Example Award.
3. Ruth Marshall reminded those present that a garden chair was still needed for the UW Ext. Garden in Oconomowoc.
4. Ruth also updated us on a few new members that have been added to the Finance Committee: Fred Redlinger and Sandy Manning have been appointed to the audit committee with MaryClare Waller chairing. Sandy, Fred, Janet and Kris Jensen have been added to the finance committee. Mary Redlinger has agreed to be secretary, in a non-voting capacity.

5. Ruth also told us about her recent correspondence with Patti Peltier and her request for receiving the monies set aside for Boerner Botanical Garden UW ext. Horticulture Center, so that she can utilize the savings by buying supplies in bulk with the UW ext.

6. Kris will be taking over the SEWMG inventory. This will be available on the web next month. Ruth will be her backup.

Announcements and Reminders

1. Doris Fons reminded us of three up-coming programs. One on Wed. 2/16 at 9am on “everything you want to know about mushrooms”, the second one will be Sharon’s educational focus meeting at 6:30pm on Wed. 3/2. The third meeting will be a “year on the farm” with Dick Ratke on Wed. 3/16 at 6:30pm.

2. Mary Thiele reminded all garden chairs to come and participate in the Opportunity Fair on sat. 3/5 from 10-12. Kay Costello suggested that current city supervisors be invited as they were in the past. MaryClare and others suggested that local media be contacted.

3. Janet Wintersberger reminded us all that if we want to use the lobby of the ext. office that it needs to be reserved.

4. Doris Fons also let us know of the up-coming Rotary Garden Symposium.

5. A brief discussion about how soon a new 2011 directory will be coming out.

6. Fred Redlinger wondered if there is a way to alert membership to when the various committee meetings occur, so that anyone who is interested can attend/participate in these meetings.

Next meeting: March 9 at 9:30am
Waukesha Extension/Waukesha Courthouse

Adjourned: at 10:54am

Respectfully submitted,
Mary E. Redlinger, SEWMG secretary