SEWMG Business Meeting Minutes  
Date June 8\textsuperscript{th}, 2011  

Members Present: 22

Meeting was called to order by: by President Mary Thiele at 9:31am.

Nuggets:
1. Ann Dougherty used packing peanuts for “filler” in a planter with poor results-she asked for other ideas.  
Marcia Zientek uses an inverted flower pot  
Patty Witt uses “false” bottoms, purchased from Steins’

2. Mary Thiele talked about the interesting children’s garden at Michigan State.

Favorite Things: Sandy Manning said: “her 21 year old”.

Mary Thiele read a Thank You note from Gladys Hintz for our thoughtfulness and prayers, during her husband’s illness.

Consumer Horticulture Educator: Ann Wied from Waukesha County handed out several flyers for us to see some of the new programs that are taking place in her county. Ann also made us aware of how she is getting the community involvement and grants to help fund these programs.

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

Treasurer’s Report: was given by Treasurer Joy Towell and approved, after some discussion on Bank fees. Bill Shaffer is checking into why there was an increase in the storage rental fees.

Old Business:
1. Plant Sale – report was given by Bill Shaffer. He stated that it successfully ran with very enthusiastic participation at the “pot-a-thons”. The gross profit was lower than it has been in the last number of years. He feels that this is possibly due to the bad weather we had this spring, bad economic times and Gus’s absence.
   -It was suggested that some different marketing strategies might help.
   -Ann Dougherty thanked the committee for everything that they had done.
   -Fred Redlinger (who was on gate duty) said that many people commented on how well organized it was this year, going though the DNR building to check-out.

2. Life-long Gardening report was given by Kay Costello. The committee has given 3 presentations during the month of May, with good responses. Ann Wied requested a presentation to be given in Waukesha Co.
3. Garden Support report was given by Patty Witt, she reminded everyone of the up-coming meeting on June 14 at 9am.
4. Long Term Planning meeting will be held on June 29 at 9am, Mary Thiele reported
5. Annual Picnic report was presented by Mary Redlinger. She reminded everyone of the August 18th date, from 5-8pm at North Point Lighthouse. She requested assistance with set-up, and Patty will get some greeters to help. Bill and Ed Kraus will get MG tables and provide the adult beverage.
6. Mary Thiele sent out an e-mail last week for Program Chairman and committee replacements and has already received 2 responses. Fred suggested that possibly the Long Term Planning committee and the new program committee could look at future program scheduling.
7. State Fair: Faouzi Kablaoui stated that the State Fair sign-up list was filled, but he noted that we could always use more people for back-up. He also stated that he will need assistance in sending out the tickets and other informational materials to those who signed up for a shift, since Ellen Blankenship’s retirement (she used to do much of this work).

**New Business:** Since we didn’t have any new business, Mary requested that we all bring some suggestions and ideas for future meetings to the July meeting.

**Announcements and Reminders :**

- June 15 – Boener “Hosta” Walk
- June 22 – “Home Remedies”, 9am ext. office
- July 6 - Boener “Annual” Walk
- August 17 – Bus Trip, sign up at June 22 mtg.
- August 18 – Annual Picnic

To add a little bit of fun to the meeting, 5 items were raffled off.

**Adjourned:** at 10:35

Next mtg. on July 13, 2011 is at UWExt. Office

Respectfully submitted,
Mary E. Redlinger, SEWMG secretary