

MGANM
Board Meeting
January 15, 2014

Present

Marina
Liz
Terri
Misty
Sarah

6:08 meeting called to order by Liz

Treasurer's Report

Some dues have been collected.

As of Dec 31

3040.81 in the checking account

Paid memberships 39

30 in petty cash

Terri demonstrated that Mg funds are kept on BG financial sheet

In 2013 MGANM had 70 members, and now only 39. What can we do?

Marina suggested **Terri should speak to Whitney** so Whitney can send out an email asking everyone to come to the Feb 4 meeting with money. Liz reminded Terri to include information on the benefits of MGANM.

Secretary's Report

Sarah did an excellent Secretary's Report as Misty wasn't at the last meeting.

No additions or corrections needed.

Terri moved that it be accepted, Marina seconded.

The vote was unanimous in favor of it.

Coordinator's report

Map of community gardens – proceeding. We got an offer from web company Pro Web Marketing to host the MGANM website free of charge, which solves a technical problem that was causing issues. Planned roll out will be Late Feb? Early March. Everyone should look forward to a survey asking for help gathering information about community gardens in the area.

Next MG course – sometime in September at the Hort Station

Let's Get Growing - date is set for Tuesday March 4 (an MGAMN meeting time). 6 pm-9 pm and we have rooms reserved at the Grand Traverse Governmental building in Boardman near Cass. That said, I'm considering shifting back to the Boardman River Nature Center, so stay tuned. We'll have a speaker for each of our four focus areas. The event will be open to the public, a sort of gardening open house for MGANM, a kick off for the gardening season, and an opportunity to strut our stuff. Topics so far arranged:

- Environmental Stewardship – Habitat Matters presentation on gardening for wildlife, Katie Grzesiak of the Northwest Invasive Species Network
- Youth Gardening – JR MG training. Lily Mahaney is on board. I strongly encourage leaders in youth gardening (Sue, others?) to connect with Lily to brainstorm how to best use this time to leverage more gardening with youth. Lily has wanted to better share her responsibilities with the JR MG curriculum, and many folks who might attend might need more training on how to get started

brainstorm how to best use this time to leverage more gardening with youth.

Lilly has wanted to better share her responsibilities with the JR MG curriculum, and many folks who might attend might need more training on how to get started with the school system as much as the curriculum

Does Sue know if Karen McClatchey is doing Jr Master Gardener? **Liz will call Sue** and have her reach out to Karen.

- Community Quality of Life – I've contacted Jeanine Rubert of Pine Hill and Brian Zimmerman of Four Seasons looking for an intro to low maintenance gardening. Open to other suggestions.
- Food Security – Thinking an intro to growing food at home targeting beginning gardeners. I've been asking around to see who already has something like this together. Open to suggestions. Will ask Pam Schmidt.

MGANM advisory board – I asked Marina if she'd shift her title from "BGS Liaison" to "Community Quality of Life" advisory board member, which would encompass her role with BGS and also better capture her other efforts to represent MGANM (e.g. at the prks and recs commission). She accepted – thank you Marian! This leaves us still with Food Security and Environmental Stewardship to fill. Hoping to promote more conversation around these themes at MBANM meetings, and that leadership arises out of those conversations.

MGANM meeting speaker schedule

- Haven't had time to get back in touch with Clay about a May wild harvesting presentation. Can I suggest we move Duke's parasites presentation to this time period. **The Board agreed that Liz will do this.** It was going to be hard for all of us to fit on the trails for the hike.
- For August and October my initial search for a presentation on backyard chickens hasn't born fruit, but I can still pursue. Can I also suggest a lecture on preserving the harvest, canning, etc? One of the MSU-E Grand Traverse staff can likely give the presentation free of charge.

The Board agreed that August should be canning and we can do chickens at the Opera House. Leslie Sooter is the chicken lady

Terri and Marina will write an article for the newsletter.

Mariana said BG Visitor Center in 2014 is free (The Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park)

Old Business

All accomplished, but **Liz will ask Matt** regarding this.

Name Tags

Sarah found ribbons but one had to buy 1000 of them which doesn't work.

Misty will buy ribbons and Sarah will tape them.

New Business

Liz proposed that the Board meet every other month during the potluck at the general meeting. Therefore **next board meetings will be March 4, May 6, August 5, October 7 December 2 (Board dinner) at 6:00 PM each month.**

The Parks and Rec will have an expo at Civic Center Area last weekend in April. We need to think about whether we will have a booth. Terri suggested peat pots with Pansies as a gift for the kids. Shared with BG?

Misty suggested a Road trip this year. We decided to look at June, or July, We will ask

as a gift for the kids. Shared with DG.

Misty suggested a Road trip this year. We decided to look at June, or July, We will ask Gail Maison to drive a bus, Liz's daughter can help out in Grand Rapids. We could do a two day trip to E. Lansing and Grand Rapids. **Misty will begin to see if** a committee can be drawn together and what the expenses would be.

Terri suggested that 10 minutes is needed at a meeting on how to register in the Michigan Master Gardener Volunteer Management system Terri suggested that at a midyear meeting would be a good time to go over with people on how to register. **Liz said give her name and number** if people have questions so people can call her. **Terri** will ask Matthew if he wants to give his name and number to help people also.

Terri brought up a Feb 27th Dow event.

Next Board meeting is Tuesday Mar 4th at 6:00 PM

Adjourned 7:10