



*Connecting a Community of Gardeners Through Learning*

## **November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016 General Membership Meeting Minutes**

The Annual Recognition Luncheon took place at the Gilbert Lodge in Twin Lakes Camp. The program included introduction of the graduates of the MSUE Master Gardener Training Course, recognition of those chosen as Master Gardener of the Year for each of our three counties and a Presentation “Plantings for Monarchs and Wild Pollinators” by Dr. Duke Elsner, MSU Extension Educator. Following a brief business meeting was held

**Call to Order:** 3:10 pm

### **President’s Report:**

Michele Worden gave a brief presentation on the state of the MGANM.

- Membership: 54
- Financials: \$3000 approximate bank balance
- Connections:
  - 435 Facebook “Likes”
  - 288 Real Dirt subscribers
- Partnerships (with Memorandum of Understanding)
  - Grand Traverse Conservation District
    - Provides meeting space at the Boardman River Nature Center in exchange for 80 volunteer hours
  - Botanic Garden Society
    - Acts as Fiduciary and provides volunteer insurance
- Association Highlights 2016
  - Revised By-Laws
  - Grew membership from 44 to 54 members
  - Improved Communications & Connections
    - Increase Facebook following, Real Dirt Subscribership
    - Held 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration
    - Planning begun on joint educational events for 2017
- Voted to Affiliate with Michigan Master Gardener Association
  - 67% of membership responding in favor
  - No recorded abstentions or no votes
- Volunteer hours
  - 2635 recorded to date for 2016
    - 2015 total hours were 4529



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- 2017 Programming – *Tentative*
  - February: Smart Gardening by Michelle Ferrarese MSUE Coordinator
  - March: What's New in 2017 by Proven Winners (joint with BGS)
  - April: Wild Harvesting Edibles
  - May: MG Project Spotlight
  - June: Field Trip to Breeze Hill Nursery – Succulent Workshop
  - July: Field Trip to Light of Day Tea Farm
  - August: Smart Plants for Pollinators by Rebecca Finneran
  - October: Plants Deer Don't Eat by Brian Zimmerman

**Election of Officers:**

- Slate of Office Candidates
  - President: 2 year Term      Michele Worden
  - Vice-President: 1 year Term      Cheryl Gross
  - Treasurer: 1 year Term      Glynis Waycaster
  - Secretary: 2 year Term      Judy Reich
- Entire Slate Approved by general consent with no dissention

**Adjournment:** 3:25 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Reich, Secretary MGANM