**MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF GENESEE COUNTY MICHIGAN**

**Membership Meeting Minutes – September 16, 2021**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Joanne Gensel at 7:00 pm at the new meeting location in the Burton Senior Center in Burton, Michigan.

**I. Reports**

**President:** 1) If COVID does not worsen, we will be meeting in this room for the October membership meeting and the Holiday Party in November. We pay $100 a night and we don’t have to pay for security as the building is open until 8 PM.

2) The budget passed with only one “no” vote. Joanne called the voter and addressed the issues to the voter’s satisfaction. Therefore, we will be opening the wallet and spending money to enhance our organization.

We are going to get some new banners for Maggie Gregg to use at her project.

We are going to get some new molds for our Master Gardener stones. We also want to add a “1,000 hours” and “3,000 hours” on stones for our Genesee County Master Gardeners.

We want to have Master Gardeners of Genesee County stones that we can leave at our Master Gardener project sites.

We need a new design for the master gardener stones. We may have a committee to work on this or have a contest.

3) We are looking into purchasing a webcam and a new projector to use at our meetings.

4) Dick Moldenhauer and Colleen Putinsky are on the Elections Committee. Dick spoke regarding where we are at this date on the elections and how we are going to vote.

**Dick Moldenhauer:**

1) The Committee has one person who has agreed to run for each office. All seven officers will be elected this year and some will be elected for two years.

President 1 year Joanne Gensel

1st Vice President 1 year Kay McCullough

2nd Vice President 1 year Sabrina VanDyke Secretary 2 years Margaret Sowle

Treasurer 2 years Carol Mitsdarfer

Director A 1 year Debbie Glasstetter

Director B 2 years Alan Grove

All of the above information will be on the ballot. Nominations will be open until the end of the October membership meeting.

Dick will email an Election Ballot to the membership. You can vote electronically, print out the ballot and bring it to the meeting or mail it to MGAGCM, P O Box 981, Grand Blanc, MI 48480. The ballot needs to be received at least five days before the meeting. You can also vote at the November meeting.

2) Plant Signs – Bring any plant signs you don’t need to the meetings and give them to Dick. He will maintain a list of signs that you might want to use at your projects.

3) Native Plants – Dick has sold some native plants on his own and donated the proceeds to the organization. Dick has extra native plants; and if you want to come to his house with your shovel for digging, you can have as many as you want.

4) Dick brought a number of books to the meeting that he got from a neighbor that cleaned out her house. She didn’t want them anymore and you are free to take any books you want.

**Kay McCullough:**

1) QR Codes – Anyone who has an Apple phone can make a QR code on plants by recording a short educational video or information sheet. If you go onto the password protected section of our Facebook page, you can see examples of QR code videos.

2) Porch Pots – Sharon Kridner has volunteered to show us how to do them. We will be doing the pots outside and because it is messy, Sabrina has volunteered to host the meeting at her house. We will meet Tuesday, October 26, at 12 Noon to 2 PM. Kay will check the weather and the date might change in case of bad weather.

3) Holiday Party – The planning is going well. Wendt is doing the catering. We will be doing a play called “Murder Mystery at the Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest” for entertainment. Everyone should wear an ugly Christmas Sweater at the Holiday Party. Kay will send a mass email where you can volunteer for a part if you want to.

**Old Business:** 1) SOP for Mini Grants – A request form will be developed so that you can request the funds you need for your project. We don’t want to buy annuals or fertilizers. We want to spend the money so that we get years of use out of the money. Fill out the form and submit it to the President who will act on the request and get the money to you.

**New Business:** 1) Native Plant Sale -- We are planning a native plant sale Father’s Day weekend at Davison Farmer’s Market. We are going to work on whatever we sell plants for, the organization will get half.

2) Bulbs – Check out Green’s where we used to get bulbs to see if we might re-establish a relationship with them again.

**Announcements:**

1) The Volunteer Central Site can be used to input our hours.

2) The Hot Line might not be opened up again. Will keep your advised.

3) Carol Groat said she needs heavy felt for the Grow Lab. Note: It needs to be very heavy, something akin to what car trunks are lined with. Carol also needs small growing pots for the Lab.

In response to a question about why we are not meeting in the big room at the GCCARD Building: Joanne said the big room was MSU’s conference room that was not being used after hours. MSU has put ten offices in the big room which makes it unavailable to us for our meetings. Our monthly meetings are separate from MSU.

However, as Master Gardeners we can use the classroom in the GCCARD building if it is something that comes under the MSU umbrella.

Joanne reminded everyone to check out the free stuff brought tonight such as: books, plants in the parking lot, and the miscellaneous items from the MSU office. Any books or miscellaneous items left over will be given to the Outreach Project.

**Close of Meeting:** The meeting was adjourned by President Joanne Gensel at 7:45 p.m.

Attendance: 29

Respectfully submitted: Margaret Sowle, MGAGCM secretary

**2021 MGAGCM Membership Meeting Schedule:**

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| **1-21-21** | **2-18-21** | **3-18-21** |
| **4-15-21** | **5-20-21** | **6-17-21** |
| **7-15-21** | **8-19-21** | **9-16-21** |
| **10-21-21** | **11-18-21 (Elections & Party)** | **December (no meeting)** |