

January 10, 2024
N.E.W. Master Gardeners Board Meeting
6:05 PM
Virtual Meeting Minutes

Present: Bruce LaSota, Megan Fierst, Edie Brandt, Eric Kropp, Don Buntman, Jennifer Classon, Bernie Jansen, Paula King, Terri Lewis, Jim Radey, Sherrill Revolinski, Shirley Triest-Robertson, Melissa Wass, Annette Weissbach, Nancy Whitfield

Absent: Kate Fix, Michelle Montoya

Guest: Al Nass

1. Bruce LaSota called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm
2. The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and approved: Motion by Shirley Triest-Robertson and seconded by Nancy Whitfield.
3. Bruce welcomed our newly elected Vice President, Megan Fierst. Electronic voting for this position was successful.
 - Requests made to UW-Extension for recent Master Gardener graduates will not be accepted, but requests for 2023 member participation will be accepted later this year.
 - The member participation spreadsheet shows that of our 72 members there are 12 inactive members that have paid dues but are not actively participating in organization activities. Our goal is to personally touch base with those people.
 - Bruce also presented notes from the interview done with the manager of the Greater Green Bay Community Fund, for education of NEWMGA board members.
4. Eric Kropp presented the year end financial report for 2023, noting the final expenses from UW Extension were entered. He recommended that we not take money out of the foundation funds to cover the expenses that exceeded our income.
 - A motion to approve the 2023 Year End Financial Report was made by Annette Weissbach, seconded by Bernie Jansen, motion passed.
 - The auditing committee members are designated by the President and approved by the board. Bruce recommended Cindy Ziolkowski be added to the committee. Motion to approve made by Don Buntman, seconded by Shirley Triest-Robertson, motion carried. Cindy Z. will join Nancy Fictum & Eric on the audit committee.
5. Bruce reported on the Community Outreach Committee's activities. Collaborative (potential Green Bay Botanical Garden joint event) and independent CE events are being worked on as well as outreach into the community. At a later date, will address

protocol for reimbursements offered to NEWMGA members that provide presentations to the community.

6. Paula King reported that the Communications Committee is refining their responsibilities document to present for approval. Megan Fierst is working on an Instagram account for NEWMGA.
7. Terri Lewis reported that the Membership Committee sent out letters to members that hadn't paid dues. The committee is meeting 1/22/24 to work on updating By Laws, including updating goals and duties of all the standing committees. By Law changes will be presented at the annual fall meeting for approval after earlier discussion by the board this year. There's ongoing discussion in regards to growing membership such as considering two tiers of membership, Outagamie County being an example.
8. Annette provided the Projects Committee report. They are also working on their roles/responsibilities document as well as details of the Meet and Mingle event being held in conjunction with the Seed Saving event 2/18/2024 at the STEM. The Meet/Mingle event will provide project introductions and opportunities to sign up, project leadership training and roundtable discussions. Attendance will qualify for 1.5 hours CE.
 - Annette noted that the NEWCAP flash projects (previously approved), will be presented at the Meet/Mingle. Nancy W. reported the NEWCAP's are in need of a lead or they won't happen this year.
 - Annette presented the Neville Museum Flash project for approval. Eric Kropp moved to approve, Don Buntman seconded, and the motion passed.
 - Project sign ups will also be available online after 2/18/2024.
9. Al Nass joined as a guest to report on the Pollinator Corridor Community. They are a group of like minded organizations, (U.S. Fish & Wildlife, WI DNR, UWGB, NWTC, Cities of Green Bay and DePere) working together to increase the pollinator corridor in the Green Bay area. Al Nass, Annette Weisbach and Claudia Schultz are representing NEWMGA in an advisory role at this time. The Pollinator Corridor next meeting is 1/26/2024.
10. Other topics/questions: Verification of Honorary members, "drop dead" date for membership (coordinate with membership and treasurer for timely WIMGA membership payment), consider survey for standing committee sign up. Plan to discuss during the March 2024 meeting the money NEWMGA has in the GGBCF and its uses.
11. Shirley Triest-Robertson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Megan Fierst, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

The next board meeting is Mar 13, 2024 at 6:00 pm.