AAMG EAB Meeting Minutes

6 August 2014

Actions

Kay: Write an article on the Tawes Garden for the Newsletter.

Kay: Revise the Project Report Guidelines per discussion at meeting.

Joyce: Edit Tawes Garden article.

Sharon: Send out a Newsflash requesting everyone updating their profiles.

Welcome

In attendance today were Joyce Dail, Rose Mary Swartwood, Sharon Smith, Kathy Enderle, Kay Stringfellow, and Carole Fullagar. Pat Shema was a visitor for a portion of the meeting.

Project Reports

• SPECIAL NOTE: The annual Project Chairs meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 13 at 6:30 p.m. Every project must be represented, either by the chair or another representative. New Project Report Guidelines will be explained, as well as other information needed to close out the year and begin a new project year. This meeting will replace the one previously held in January.

• B&A Trail: As EAB Liaison to the project, Carole investigated possible additional areas of involvement with the public. Ideas included participating in a Trail Opening Day in the spring with the Friends of the B&A Trail, having a large stone marker denoting MG work at the garden, and putting new information on a sign at the trellis area. Unfortunately, the area has suffered vandalism in the past and some options may not be practical. Carole pointed out how the B&A Trail project has done much in the past that hasn’t been documented to the membership, and suggested that perhaps a new role for someone could be as MG Historian.

• AA Co Flower Show: Information is in the August Newsletter and in a Newsflash about participating in this project. Training and dinner are planned for August 21, 7-9 pm, at the Fairgrounds. Pat Shema would like more participation in the Flower Show activities, as well as volunteers from any and all committees to staff an information table in front of the Flower Show booth to tell people about Master Gardeners and specific projects. Please provide any brochures for specific projects. We will be signing up volunteers for the table for shifts on Saturday and Sunday, September 13 and 14, the busiest days at the fair. Pat will do a project talk at the August meeting.

• Hancock’s Resolution: Nancy Allred is seeking permission from the Hancock’s association to pursue Bay-Wise certification for the gardens there.

• Dairy Farm: The team is doing a great job in maintenance of the Village Garden. (Stop by to see it – it looks beautiful!)
• Arnold Elementary Youth Garden: Cleanup is scheduled for this week. Chairman Jessica Zinder and team are working to strengthen the program in the fall, incorporating art into the garden, using Learning Landscape lesson plans, and increasing the number of volunteers.
• Ask-A-MG: Has over 2,500 contacts so far this year.
• Beekeeping: Lots of events this summer.
  o Quiet Waters Park: Hive is in good health.
    ▪ August 13: Talk and demo, 9:30, Pam McFarland, Scott Doran, Bob Bates
    ▪ August 23: Talk and demo, 8:30, Sheila DeLaquil – Need another volunteer
  o Hancock’s Resolution: The road hive is in excellent condition with lots of brood and honey. The farm hive is less healthy and needs to be watched closely.
    ▪ August 17: 1:00 p.m., John Conners and Marjorie Tischler
    ▪ August 24: 1:00 p.m. – Carolyn Keenen and John Conners
  o A Quiet Waters Park ranger supplied info on the August 13 demo to the August issue of What’s UP Annapolis on page 17. (The time is wrong, but we’ll take the publicity.)
  o The events at HR have been gaining attendance. The July 6th event had 22 attendees and the July 13th event had 17. The QWP attendance has been disappointing, but some of that is due to lack of publicity for our events. The July 9th event had 3 attendees. Melissa Barrett has graciously volunteered to do some publicity for our project and we are going to concentrate on QWP. There is a plan in place for that.
  o On July 15th John Conners and Bob Bates visited an Annapolis Parks and Recreation program at Pip Moyer Recreation Center and took an observation hive which was used for John’s presentation on bees. It was a big hit with the 17 attendees. We also had a visit at HR from the MG Kinder Park Apprentice Garden project on July 16th in the evening. They were given the bee presentation and demo right at the hives. There were 32 in attendance.

Program Plans

• The August meeting will be at the Crofton Library. Barbara Crispin will demonstrate some of her Learning Landscape plans for use in other projects. Project talks will be given by Pat Shema, Jessica Zinder, and Bonnie Pavlak.
• Programs scheduled for September, October, and November are on track.
• Suggestions for speakers are welcome for 2015. Some being planned or suggested include:
  o Tawes Garden
  o Carolyn Keenen
  o Debbie Werre (Garden tour)
  o Maryland Biodiversity Project
  o Watershed Stewards or Riverkeepers
  o Londontown or Paca Gardens
  o National Arboretum
  o Linda Davis, speaking on mosses
  o HGIC personnel
**Finances:** Finances are in good shape. The current account balance, which doesn’t yet reflect some expenditures, such as the upcoming purchase of the brick pavers for the Village Garden, is $17,273.58.

**Time Tracking Database**

- A reminder: The new database, the Time Tracking System, is the only official way to track your hours. The former timesheet, now labeled as a Worksheet on the web site, should only be used for personal tracking of your hours. To receive credit, you must enter your hours into the database itself. The link is available on the web site under Just for MGs/Timesheets/Master Gardener Time Tracking System.
- Some members still have not entered any hours. Unlike in the past, there will be NO grace period at the end of the year. Hours must be entered before 2014 ends! In addition, Sharon and Carole must approve all hours that are entered. It is quite time-consuming, and we don’t want to overburden them at the end of the year.

**Seed Library at Crofton Library, Cancelled**

- Unfortunately, the Seed Library is cancelled. Anne Arundel County Libraries have decided not to participate because of an action by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, which ruled against these types of activities in Cumberland, PA. Information is in this article: [Department of Agriculture cracks down on seed libraries](http://example.com/seed-library-cancelled)