

Minutes of Friends of the Garden

June 9, 2011

Board Members Present: George Deatz, Dr. Bob Kipfer, Gail Wright, Kauleen Valentine, Don Akers, Carla Beezley, Bob Childress, Christine Chiu, Nancy Hopkins, Dr. Stan Horsch, Kenny Knauer, Heather Parker, Mike Ward, Cindy Willis, Tom Lakowske, George Freeman, Jeanne Duffey.

Guests Present: There were 9 guests present.

Minutes: Dorothy Brunskill distributed the May minutes by email. Bob Kipfer moved to accept: the minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Kauleen distributed the May treasurer's report by email. Bob Kipfer moved to accept: the report was approved.

Guest Speaker: Shelley Vaughne spoke about the Grant Beach Park Community Project. The purpose of the project is to teach kids where food comes from; 95% of kids in this area are on free lunches. They have 3 lots and the project is funded with \$50,000 of Community assessment money. The project has been delayed because the first bid came in too high. They hope to break ground on July 1st starting with the first 2 of 4 quadrants so a fall garden can be planted. They have adopted the 4H philosophy of starting with kids who will take it home teaching them to cook and can. An Urban 4H group of 16 kids from Pipkin, Weaver, and Central schools has been formed. A pizza garden will be planted and a community dinner served from the food grown. Eating from the Garden is another project planned. Volunteers and tools will be needed. The volunteers will have 30 hours of training and will have to volunteer 20 hours in the gardens.

Development Committee: Jeanne Duffey reported the committee met last Tuesday. They are adding new things to the new members packet such as discounts available locally and what is going on in the garden.

Nancy Hopkins reported that they are going deeper into what is a Sensory Garden. They are meeting with Jan Horton on Monday about grants through the Community Foundation. They are also working on different levels of giving. Their next meeting is June 23 at 11: 30.

Publicity releases by Jeanne include a news release on the MG garden tours, the Butterfly Festival, photo contest, and Katie's next training session.

George Freeman reported the Greene Magazine is out.

Christine has developed ways for members to volunteer to put in their packet.

Kauleen reported that FOG has authorized purchasers and approved vendors; she will be putting out a list. . All purchases and donations need to go through her so she can send out letters or thank you notes and for tax purposes. She reminded

everyone that FOG purchases are tax-exempt. There are now 736 FOG members; renewal letters are being sent out every Monday.

Kenny Knauer reported he has been working with the TV and radio media for publicity on the MG garden tour and the Greene Magazine; next will be the Butterfly Festival with the concerts. He is working on the details for the Butterfly Festival.

Garden Committee: Bob Childress reported on the gardens.

9 trees have been added to the arboretum.

The Azalea Garden has been weeded and mulched.

Volunteers from Kraft mulched the Shrub and Viburnum Gardens.

Help is needed with weeding in the Butterfly Garden.

The Columbine Garden was beautiful this year.

Conifers have been replaced in the Conifer Garden. Boys from the Samaritan Boys Ranch will mulch the Conifer Garden next Tuesday. They will work from 9-12 every Tuesday.

The Daylily Garden is budding.

The design for the Entrance Garden is being finalized.

The Grass Garden needs help; it has been suggested that volunteers could adopt one of the 7 arms.

The irrigation valves are not operational yet.

Tom Lakowske reported that the group Kids Across America came here and worked in the Hosta Garden weeding and mulching. He took them to the Butterfly House, which they enjoyed. Tom reminded everyone to bring a chair and relax in the Hosta Garden on this coming Saturday from 9-11 instead of having a workday. George D. thanked Tom for taking over the Hosta Society.

Marthe thanked the Pink Dogwood Garden Club for all their work in the White Garden.

The Iris Society has not been maintaining the Iris Garden; Katie is working on that.

The Native Shrub Garden is looking good except for the Beautyberry.

The Peony Garden has been mulched.

The Japanese iris is in full bloom now.

The wildflowers for the Shady wildflower garden are dormant now and are being held to be planted in the fall

Soil is here for the Winter Garden and needs to be moved.

The brickwork in front of the Butterfly House needs to be done before the Festival. Bob C. has a bid for the work. Bob Kipfer made a motion to accept Keith's Landscaping bid to install the brick sidewalk at the Butterfly House at a cost of \$3600 including materials. . The motion passed with all in favor it was also discussed to sell bricks in front of the Butterfly House and in the walks of the Cercis Garden. Bob Kipfer made a motion to offer engraved paver bricks for the Butterfly House walk at \$100 apiece and for the Redbud Garden walks at \$75 apiece. The motion passed with all in favor.

New engraved directional signs have been installed at the N end and the S end of the asphalt drive.

The purchase of the laser engraver is waiting on the vote from Master Gardeners for approval.

George Deatz reported that Christine is the official liaison with the MGs on the laser engraver. President Barbara St. Clair has written a letter explaining the laser and justifying purchasing. George encouraged all FOG members who are MGs to be at the MG meeting. Ruby Miller had a concern about the non-profit status of MGs if they sold engraved labels to other groups.

Katie reported a small attendance at the docent meeting on Tuesday. The demand for guided tours of the Butterfly house is high and they need more help in the House.

Butterfly Festival: Cindy Willis reported lot of good donations for the Festival. She suggested that the first bricks for the walk in front of the House should be for the sponsors. Chipotle is donating lunches for the volunteers on Saturday; they need a donor for Sunday They also need more water for the volunteers; Hiland has donated 6 cases. Cindy passed around sign up sheets for more volunteers. Blue shirts will be provided for all the volunteers.

Let Cindy know if you can help. Possible volunteers could be obtained from 4H, Scouts, and the Wolf program. More photos are needed for the photo contest-just 3 weeks left for entries. Two bluegrass groups will perform with another group to be announced which will be put on FOG website.

George introduced Danny Brooks from Benary Seed as a new FOG member and thanked him for donating several flats of annuals to the gardens.

4300 visitors have been through the Butterfly House so far. The designation for State Butterfly didn't make it out of Jefferson City this year.

Greene Co. Commissioners didn't add the renewal of the Parks sale tax to the ballot this year. George D. suggested sending a note to the Commissioners about how disappointed you are.

Dorothy Brunskill has been working diligently on getting volunteers.

Peter reported on the geese problem; they haven't attacked any of the plantings yet. Bob C. spoke to animal control about the geese problem; they said that are not allowed to pick up domestic fowl. Bob called Jerry Compton to inquire about changing the ordinance to allow them to pick them up. It was noted that the animal control officers spend a lot of time in the park

Nominating Committee: Marthe reported that she has a wonderful selection of names and to let her know if you know of anybody for the positions that will be open for next year.

Tablescapes with Peter Longley on the Botanical Center Terrace is scheduled for tomorrow, but may have to be held inside due to the weather.

Christine reported on the MG garden tour. All are private gardens and have been preapproved. Tickets are \$10 for 10 gardens

Marthe reported that she and Major are hosting a table at the Gift of Time luncheon on Thursday June 16th for our nominee George Deatz.

Bob Kipfer moved to adjourn 0618.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Wright, Secretary