

Minutes
Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.
District IIB Steering Committee Meeting
October 11, 2018
Michigan Nature Association, Okemos

Present: Lynn Keelan, Barb Ketchum, Sue Wittick, Peggy Bryson

The meeting commenced at 1:30 p.m.

Lynn reported that more judges are needed for awards applications. She also said that Carol Grainger may have identified a nominee for District Director. Sue stated that she may have a candidate for district treasurer.

Barb reported that she has reserved space at Cascades in Jackson on several likely dates for a potential spring 2019 meeting. She's asked Steve Rhodes whether the Marshall club would supply a registrar and centerpieces for the event. He expects to get the club's response on October 16. Barb suggests simplifying the format for the meeting: no vendors, 1 speaker and a club presentation. The group suggested presentations by the new interest groups. Barb will follow up. She also recommended establishing a rota for hosting the fall district meetings.

Barb reported on a recent craft session at Michigan Barnwood in Mason. She has scheduled a craft night on November 15 for District participants and will write a piece announcing that for the November newsletter. If the Nov. 15 session is overbooked, she will schedule a second session.

Lynn described the Howell Garden Club's tour of The Parade Company. The group discussed this as a potential future District field trip.

We discussed the need to do more club visits. Among those we have not yet visited are Sherwood, Union City, Looking Glass, Hartland, Brighton.

Mention was made of a club that does 50/50 raffles at each meeting and pays for member attendance at MGC convention and district meetings. Reportedly this is a 501(c)(3). Need to follow up.

Sue reports that Rose Houk will try to prepare a piece on liability insurance for the November District newsletter. She noted also that there has been no response from the manufacturer of the pollinator earrings regarding refunding the overcharge for installing (incorrectly) unordered earwires.

We discussed community project grants and agreed the maximum single grant from District IIB would be \$200. Assuming there are applications, we plan to issue grant awards at the spring District meeting.

Sue suggests postponing the planned nomination of MNA for the MGC nonmember award until 2019 as time is too short to conduct the necessary research and interviews and prepare a comprehensive application.

Four members have volunteered to staff the District IIB sales table at the Central Region convention. Unfortunately, several of them are committed to attend meetings for much of one of the convention days.

We talked about the fall business meeting. Barb will discuss the 2019 spring meeting, Peggy grant applications. Lynn needs information on the life membership to be presented. Another important topic is the need for volunteers to help the District.

Barb will schedule a meeting with the DeWitt Millennium Garden Club leadership to discuss the fall 2019 District meeting.

The next meeting will be held on November 13 or 15 near DeWitt at 11 am if the DeWitt club can meet or 1:00 or 1:30 pm if the DeWitt club will not attend.

The meeting adjourned and members assembled plant markers to donate to the Michigan Nature Association for its native plantings.

Action items

Lynn Obtain information on life membership to be presented on October 25.

Barb Schedule steering committee meeting with DeWitt Millennium GC regarding plans for 2019 fall district meeting.

Submitted by Peggy Bryson