

**Minutes**  
**District IIB Steering Committee Meeting**  
**December 15, 2017**  
**Bigby Coffee, Howell**

Present: Lynn Keelan, Sue Wittick, Peggy Bryson

The meeting commenced at approximately 2:00 pm.

Sue reported that she has received positive feedback on the newsletter from some clubs, but it appears that some members may not be receiving it. A few presidents have reported the newsletter file exceeds the size their e-mail servers allow. She will phone club presidents to inquire about this. She notes the newsletter file can be split for those who have experienced difficulty with file size in forwarding. She will also ask presidents if any member is willing to assist with the spring meeting and will send presidents the meeting flyer.

We discussed a theme for the April 18 flower show that will be presented at the April District meeting. We concluded the flower show would be titled "Bee Ready for Spring", playing off the meeting logo of two bees and B's that Sue created. We also brainstormed potential advertisers in the spring meeting program: Proven Winners Garden, Bergdorf Winery, Van Atta nursery, Cottage Gardens, Specialty Growers, Horrock's, Gee Farms. We then talked about whether one or more enterprises might sponsor dessert, breakfast fruit, equipment or a gift basket at the spring meeting or a printer for the District. Needed: a volunteer to solicit advertisers/sponsors.

The group discussed ideas for raising funds for the District and concluded that a grant writing workshop might be of use to clubs.

Peggy reported that the new District website has been experiencing limited viewers and that the District Meeting Handbook section has been the most popular page. The site's development is stalled until clubs and their members begin submitting information to populate the event calendar and individual club pages, along with information about their upcoming programs and events, speakers, vendors, meeting venues in their areas, and local nurseries and garden centers.

Lynn inquired about awarding an MGC or CR Life Membership to Lynda Foster. Peggy will check with Bunny whether that can be done.

Upcoming meetings:

- Lynn will check with Kathi Dominguez about meeting the week of January 15 to discuss a meeting of club presidents.
- January 25, 2018 at the Michigan Nature Center, Okemos, regarding the District 2018-19 budget

Action Items

Sue:

- Contact club presidents about district newsletter distribution and assistance from members
- Send club presidents the 2018 spring meeting flyer

Lynn:

- Schedule meeting with Kathi Dominguez regarding a future presidents meeting

Peggy:

- Check with Bunny LaDuke about whether the District can purchase a life membership

The meeting concluded at approximately 3:00 pm.

Peggy Bryson