

**Minutes**  
**Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.**  
**District IIB Steering Committee Meeting**  
**February 13, 2018**  
**Firewood Grill, Howell**

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

The meeting commenced at approximately 11:45 a.m.

Sue reported that one t-shirt order has been received. She spoke with Rose Houk about the prospect of requesting an advance of funds from MGC. She said Rose encouraged writing the proposal and submitting it to the MGC President, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Treasurer and Finance Chair, noting that the Finance Committee isn't scheduled to meet until April. Sue presented the steering committee with a draft advance request proposal which was approved for submission to MGC.

Because there is a sufficient supply of the black swallowtail butterfly pins, there will not be another order submitted soon, so Jean Goetz is no longer willing to shepherd the bee pin order effort as an add-on to a butterfly pin order, Sue reports.

Sue commented that she thinks it would be best to wait to engage in printing for clubs and MGC until the District has purchased a printer. Printing costs will be easier to isolate with a District printer than a personal printer that's used for other purposes.

The group agreed that the District should fund the coffee at today's meeting with the presidents of the Howell, Brighton, and Hartland garden clubs.

Barb mentioned the Mason Barnwood facility as a venue for conducting fundraiser classes and workshops, e.g., flower arranging, flower preserving.

The group decided that Lynn would share the District IIB newsletter with the other District Directors.

Planning for the spring District meeting is well advanced. Still to be done: develop a detailed meeting agenda.

The tri-fold display for the spring flower show awaits updating.

The group discussed concerns that some clubs may be planning to conduct 50/50 drawings without obtaining the necessary license. We considered placing an item about this in the newsletter and an announcement on the District website. Barb suggested a list of good practices for 501(c)(3) organizations would be helpful. Peggy will check with Rose whether such a list already exists.

Barb raised the subject of pollinator flyways and suggested the District develop a map of pollinator gardens that would illustrate flyways in the District. That discussion led to proposals for District maps of Plant it Pink gardens and Blue Star gardens.

Peggy was asked to add a field trip page to the District website.

The group discussed ideas for workshops and the summer presidents meeting. Especially for potential website development and social media workshops, we wondered whether a school computer lab might be available. For the presidents meeting, we decided to seek a free venue and to have the District pick up the tab for 50% of the lunch cost. Box lunches from Heavenly Ham or Soup Spoon Cafe or doing a potluck lunch were proposed. We estimate attendance of about 50 people depending on summer schedules. We talked about a possible white elephant icebreaker for the Presidents meeting. And we talked about doing a garage sale type fundraiser at some future event.

The next meeting will be at 11:30 on March 1, 2018 at the Michigan Nature Association in Okemos.

The meeting concluded at approximately 2:00 p.m.

#### Action items

- Lynn        Send the District newsletter to the other District Directors.  
              Send Peggy the bill for Beehive Buzz coffee.
  
- Peggy       Add field trip information to District website.  
              Check with Rose Houk regarding a list of best practices for 501(c)(3)s.
  
- Sue         Redesign the District tri-fold display for use at the March flower show.
  
- Barb        Work with Lynn to develop a detailed April meeting agenda

Submitted by Peggy Bryson