

Minutes of Friends of the Garden

April 14, 2011

Board Members Present: George Deatz, Dr. Bob Kipfer, Gail Wright, Don Akers, Patrick Byers, Bob Childress, Christine Chiu, Major Close, Peggy Sauer, Mike Ward, Cindy Willis, Dr. Bill Roston, Tom Lakowske, George Freeman, Jeanne Duffey.

Guests Present: There were 15 guests present.

Minutes: Gail distributed the March minutes by email. Bob Kipfer moved to accept. The minutes were approved.

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

Development Committee: Jeanne Duffey reported the committee is working on fund raising, marketing and publicity. They have placed an ad in the Junior League newsletter, and issued a news release for the Hosta Society, which generated lots of responses. Also there will be a news release for Katie on the dedication for the stained glass window and the library. Nancy Hopkins is working on raising funds for the Sensory Garden, FOG received \$557 from Maschinos for the Winter Garden, and Jeanne is working on an article for Scott about docents for the Butterfly House.

Publicity: George Freeman reported that the deadline for the next issue of Greene Magazine is May 1, and the magazine will be out June 1. They have been accepted by a distribution center out of Jeff City, so the magazine will be found in more stores. George D. said that the last issue was the best so far. Greene Magazine is now on Facebook. R J is still working on the FOG website and George D. reminded everyone that R J is a volunteer and assigns priority on items to be published.

Speakers Bureau: George D. reported that Lee has a number of requests for speakers and if he can't fill them he will pass the requests on to the Master Gardeners.

Garden Committee: Bob Childress reported on the following:

Power has been installed in the Dwarf Conifer Garden; they are waiting to be inspected.

A 4 inch water line has been laid from the building to the Azalea Garden for irrigation. They will be planting the garden next Thursday at 9 am and will need volunteers to help plant. Dow will supervise.

Katie has redesigned the Entrance Garden.

The wildflower will be expanded with plants for shade donated by a lady in Kansas City; the plants will arrive May 15. Irrigation will be required for this

garden and Bob is waiting on bids, He has one bid of \$2000. Major Close moved to approve the bid of \$2000 for irrigation of the Wildflower Garden, The motion was approved.

The grass areas in the Cercis Garden need improving. Bids are needed for irrigation for that area. Bob will be working with a group from Expedia to spread mulch next Thursday. The bids for the brick walk in this garden came back too high so may install them ourselves.

A trench is being installed to supply water to the Butterfly Garden.

The Grass Garden is being maintained by Hannah, It has been cleaned out, mulched, and gravel has been spread, There are grasses that need to be identified.

Six new shrubs will be installed in the Native Garden on Monday.

Three beds for the Winter Garden were laid out Tuesday.

The shrubs need to be fertilized.

The trip to the plant auction in Versailles to buy annuals is scheduled for 4/20.

George thanked Ed Miller for all his work installing power in the Dwarf Conifer Garden.

Butterfly House Operation: Scott reported the next meeting for the group would be held on 4/25 at 5:30 pm. The next volunteer orientation meeting will be held on 4/27 at 6 pm. More docents are needed so that the house can be open more hours.

Butterfly Festival: Cindy Willis reported that she and Hannah have worked to get sponsors for the festival; they will have packets for the sponsors. Food will be provided for the volunteers. The Japanese Garden and Gray Campbell will be open during the festival and there will be events in the building. There will be music with Reel Green, a bluegrass band, and they are looking for a rock group. There is a quilt block contest and a photo contest. Posters will be up in the Butterfly House and in the Botanical Center. Handouts will be ready by April 30 More volunteers will be needed this year; volunteers have shirts and snacks will be provided.

Old Business: More volunteers are needed in and around the building; Let Katie know.

The asphalt paving is being installed.

There is new directional signage

Anyone interested in assisting any the FOG committees contact George D, or any group chair to join.

Peter reported on the geese problem. The fence should be in this month. The repellent sprayed in the English and Butterfly gardens seem to be working; the predator cut outs are in progress.

Other Business: Board member Sharon Owings resigned due to personal reasons; the position is left open for now.

The Nominating Committee with Marthe as chair is forming already; the new board will need to be presented in September. Let Marthe know if you know committed people.

Peggy Sauer reported that the Musgrave Grant for the laser engraver has been filed and is to be reviewed May 1.

A TRIM grant for the arboretum is being looked at.

Guest Speaker: Bob Kipfer introduced Linda Ellis, who is a botanist and illustrator. She has identified a new invasive plant. In August of 2008, she and a friend were driving the back roads of Arkansas when they saw a ditch full of plants with clouds of butterflies. 40% of the different Butterfly species were pollinating this plant. She collected a specimen of this plant and identified it as *Scabiosa atropurpurea* (pin cushion flower). In 2 years, the plant was found south of Berryville Ark, and now has found on the south shore of Lake Stockton. This plant has a special structure that produces heavy nectar, this attracts dedicated pollinators, which results in maximum fertility and overwhelms other plants with sheer numbers. These plants are annuals blooming July-September. Control is by hand pulling or mowing.

The ¼ cent sales tax has to be voted on to be renewed and to keep the current funding formula for Parks and other funds, George D, encouraged everyone to contact our elected officials to get it placed on the ballot.

Volunteers are needed for the FOG booth at the Discovery Center on April 16, and also for the Azalea Festival at Garden Adventures April 30 and May 1

Bob Kipfer moved to adjourn 6 pm,

Respectfully submitted, Gail Wright, Secretary