

## **Miller Garden Club General Meeting – October 11, 2014**

Karin Crane called the meeting to order.

### **WORK DAYS**

**Monday, October 12 at 12:00 noon** – Sue Rutsen wants help transplanting dune grass in front of the Aquatorium

**Saturday, October 25** (the weekend after the bulb sale) – Karin Crane needs help planting bulbs on Lake Street – approximately 10:00 am to noon. We will have about 600 daffodils and 600 tulips to plant. Karin assures us it is easy work.

### **FINANCES**

Jack Tonk is out of town, so there is no financial report. However, we are expecting a check for \$600 from the Arts District as our share of the proceeds from the pre-garden walk collaboration. Income was \$1,100 from admissions, \$700 from the raffle. Expenses were \$600 for food and drink, leaving \$1,200 profit, to split between the two organizations.

The Garden Club will be getting a check for \$1,600 from the MBA for our work keeping up the flower beds on Lake Street. We may also be getting a contribution from Centier Bank for maintaining the flower bed in front of their office.

### **EVENTS**

The recent **outing to Pinhook Bog** was enjoyed by all.

**Brats and Bulbs** is coming up next **Saturday, October 18**. 45 types of bulbs will be for sale. Lunch is \$4, accompanied by live music.

Workers should arrive about 11:00 to start fire and set up. Customers should start coming about 11:30. Patricia Gonzales is bringing some plants for sale, and Karin will have a table for selling Garden Club T-shirts.

**Craft project** – making holiday wreaths – **Saturday, November 15 at 10:00 am**. A cooperative effort with the Farmers' Market. Cost to participate is \$25 for materials, sufficient for making 2 wreaths. Craftsmen are encouraged to bring their own add-ons.

We are looking into an **outing to a hydroponic farm** and an **instructive session about canning and pickling** during the winter. Volunteers are also needed for the **Porter County garden show** in January.

We would like to have an outing to the **Meijer Sculpture Garden on May 30, 2015**. We will probably hire a bus at a cost of about \$25 per person.

### **GENERAL NEWS**

Work on community gardens is finished for the year, except for planting a garden at the Chapel of the Dunes in honor of Judy Ayers' mother.

Members commended the article in the Garden Club newsletter about Chester Baran.

The Garden Club website is being improved.

Jennifer Gerber was praised for donating lots of plants for Lake Street as she downsized her home garden.

Susan Binkley has red-twig dogwoods to plant, once we decide what to do with them.

Bernie Bonk is accumulating orders for Garden Club T-shirts and will send in an order when demand reaches a sufficient quantity. Price is \$16 for short sleeves and \$20 for long sleeves.

The application for 501-C-3 status is progressing, and we are expecting to get the application in before the next Garden Club meeting.

Carol Smith offered thanks for help in maintaining the area around Fr. Marquette's statue in the park. Carol is recruiting volunteers to maintain the kids' park area. Yolanda is starting a children's garden in the playground area as a memorial for her grandson.

#### **UPCOMING SPEAKERS**

Corya Channing has negotiated a contract with Mike Nowak, radio celebrity and gardener, to give a "talk about trees" for the Garden Club mid-winter wine and cheese event on January 17 at 7:00 pm. We have decided that the talk should be held at the Gardner Center, to accommodate more attendees. Costs will be \$250 plus mileage for Nowak and \$150 for the Gardner Center. We will charge \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members to attend.

#### **ELECTION OF MILLER GARDEN CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**

Candidates for the board introduced themselves and stated why they thought they should be elected. The members cast ballots. There were 7 candidates for 6 positions.

As a result of the balloting, the following members were elected to the Miller Garden Club Board of Directors for terms beginning immediately and ending in October 2016:

Judy Ayers  
Debbie Doers  
Corya Channing  
Bernie Bonk  
Joanne Stratton  
Dawn Vanzo

There was a short break for refreshments and conversation, followed by two instructive presentations:

**Karin Crane** described how to start flowering plants from seeds over the winter.

**Dawn Vanzo**, aided by a youtube film, showed how to force various types of bulbs for winter and early spring blooming.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Eaton  
Secretary, Miller Garden Club