**Danville Master Gardener Association**

**Membership Meeting**

**May 1, 2023**

The May 1, 2023, meeting was held at West Main Baptist Church at 7:00 p.m. with 22 members and trainees present as well as several visitors and our speaker. A social time began at 6:30 p.m. with refreshments provided by Elizabeth Lattime, Nancy Carpenter, and Elizabeth Tomlin.

**Educational Program:**

Katherine Craib, a UNC-G student, presented our program, “A Study of Chamomile and Ginseng Teas”. She had analyzed and researched numerous commercially available teas to determine their origin and whether their packaging was accurate. Her conclusion was that most Chamomile is a German type and most Ginseng is an American type. She also reviewed the possible uses of each of the types of tea for their healing properties.

**Business Meeting - Call to Order and Minutes:**

Billy Holley, President, called the Business Meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. He expressed sympathy to Brenda Rowland on the recent death of her mother and asked that Bonnie send out a notice to the membership.

The Plant Sale at the Science Center/Train Station on Saturday, April 15, was a success with sales of $305.00. Thanks to Billy, Ann Sylves, Sandy Pruitt, Corey Reidel and all others who contributed and purchased plants.

The minutes of the April 3, 2023 meeting had been sent to the membership by email. There were no corrections or additions. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Fred Shanks and seconded by Julia Sparrow. The motion carried by a voice vote.

**Financial Report:**

Treasurer Kelly Adcock reported that 23 members had paid dues and notices have been sent to those not paid. Expenses during the month included memorial contributions in memory of Stuart Sutphin of $50 to the Riceville-Java Volunteer Fire Department and $50 to the Danville-Pittsylvania Cancer Association.

The current balances on accounts are as follows:

Main Account $16,416.83

Swipe Credit Card $ 1,746.30

Gibson Greenhouse $ 1,976.40

**Budget for July 2023-June 2024:**

Kelly distributed copies of the proposed budget to the members. Billy explained that the committee included known income and expenses and estimates for other categories based on previous years. The primary unknown is 2024 Spring to Green; for budget planning purposes, the committee has estimated income of $5,000 and expenses of $2,500.

The proposed budget shows annual expenses exceeding annual income, with the balance of $1,925 to be transferred from Unrestricted Reserve in the Main Account. Any comments or questions are welcome and should be addressed to any board member. A membership vote on the budget will be held at the June 5, 2023 meeting.

Discussion included that Spring to Green was basically “starting over” since it was not held from 2021-2023 due to Covid restrictions. The Olde Dominion Agricultural Center in Chatham has been reserved for Saturday, February 3, 2024, with the Virginia Tech Extension Office price of $150 plus a possible additional $150 if we do not use one of the ODAC approved food vendors. A bad weather date has not been reserved. Debra Bailey is the Spring to Green chairman and plans to begin committee meetings in the next few weeks.

**DMGA Newsletter:**

Julia Sparrow asks for any pictures, articles, etc., to be submitted by the end of May, to be included in the next quarterly newsletter.

**DMGA Website:**

Corey stated that he and Brenda Rowland had completed numerous updates to the website. Facebook posts are also helping increase DMGA visibility; Facebook was especially helpful in publicizing the recent plant sale.

**Area Events:**

Sandy Pruitt stated that community garden plots provided by the City of Danville near the Crossing were still available.

A Pesticide Take-Back Day will be held on May 4, from 10 am – 2 pm on Firetower Road, in Yanceyville, NC. Information was included in previous email and is available online.

Master Gardener plant sales will be held in South Boston and Lynchburg on May 5.

The Danville Farmers’ Market also be opening on Saturday, May 5.

**DMGA Master Gardener Training Class:**

DMGA members are welcome to join in the upcoming training class labs; there is a sign-up sheet at the meeting and emails will be sent also.

May 6: Woody Plants/Pruning at Ballou Park (rescheduled from April 22 due to rain); May 13: Herbaceous Plants at Southern Virginia Botanical Garden in South Boston;

June 3: Vegetables at the Danville Community Gardens/Farmers Market.

**Project and Committee Reports:**

1. Brookdale Assisted Living – Mary Beth Holley, trainee, has met with some of the residents to talk about plants and related topics, and hopes to continue this.
2. Ballou Park “Master Gardener” class – Corey – from May through October, the last Thursday of every month, from 11 am – 12 noon (Shelter 10). Corey welcomes assistance from DMGA members and any “take-home” ideas.
3. The Danville Childrens’ Festival will be Saturday, June 17; Debra will have a sign-up at the next meeting to help set up activities and give-aways.
4. Spring to Green – Debra asked that those on the committee send her an email about availability during May. She plans to meet at the Extension office. Corey will work with the committee, especially on speakers from Virginia Tech. Debra plans a low-key, smaller-scale event to get it started up again.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made to adjourn; the motion was seconded and passed by a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

**Next Board Meeting: TBD**

**Next DMGA Meeting:**

**Monday, June 5, at West Main Baptist Church**

**Refreshments at 6:30**

**Program at 7:00, “The Many Faces of Moss” by Dr. Dorothy Bell Poli**

**with Business Meeting to follow**

**Respectfully submitted:**

**Bonnie Hill, Secretary**