



MGSOC Board Meeting Minutes: January 17, 2024

In person meeting

Executive Board Officers:

Present: E. Lardner, L. Propst, M. Truza, S. Bolle, J. Fromm, D. Foster, C. Smith

Absent:

Committee Chairs:

Present: J. Grissom, K. Sobanski, D. Brown, C. Roney

Absent: A. Koran, B. Peters, J. Bird, N. Schmid

Others Present:

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS:

PRESIDENT:

Emily Lardner reported:

MGSOC zoom board meetings:

- Board meeting length – The goal is a 75-minute board meeting with a 90-minute maximum. E. Lardner suggested continuing the zoom meeting for 30 additional minutes to include a social aspect.
- E. Lardner would like all committee reports sent to her prior to the zoom meetings to be included in the meeting agenda.

MGSOC general society meetings:

- E. Lardner suggests that we provide a 3 to 7 minute “get to know your neighbor” question at each table with a board member seated at as many tables as possible. One table representative will convey the group answer to the question. This may help in the fight against loneliness and isolation.
- E. Lardner would like to introduce using QR Codes for group surveys.
- E. Lardner suggested designating a meeting to “bring a gardening friend” with the guest fee waived for that meeting. This may help to get more people in the door.



- There was a discussion of our current zoom account and how we can use it and if we can save money. E. Lardner will follow up on this.
- There was a discussion of our apparel booth for the upcoming MSUE MG Conference on August 23-24 in Interlochen, Mi. We will be making a \$250.00 donation for this event.
- There was a quick recap of the MGSOC Holiday Party. S. Bolle posted photos on Facebook and will post some on our website.
- Information was shared about the Smart Gardening Conference.
- SOCWA garden invited us to visit again this year. E. Lardner will ask them to attend our general meeting prior to the tour.

SECRETARY:

Julie Fromm reported:

- **S. Bolle made a motion to approve the November 20, 2023, MGSOC board meeting minutes. L. Propst seconded this motion. Motion carried.**

FINANCE:

Dianah Foster reported:

- The 5/3 checking account and the Flourish account balances were reviewed.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT:

Sally Bolle reported:

- Nothing new to report.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT:

Craig Smith reported:

- C. Smith reported that he has ordered stickers for Laura Miehl as Master Gardener of the Year. S. Bolle would like to invite Laura to the March MGSOC general meeting to present this to her.
- C. Smith agreed to follow up with Caitlin regarding the plaque with all the Master Gardeners of the Years on it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

2024 MG CONFERENCE:

Betty Peters absent/Salle Bolle reported:

- S. Bolle discussed the conference registration and ticket sales. Ann Hudak will be handling ticket registration with Dianah Foster as a backup. Eventbrite will be used for ticket sales.
- S. Bolle is designing and donating 1000 save the date cards to promote the conference and she is donating the conference band.



- S. Bolle is not planning on printing brochures this year. She would like to do something virtual to save on costs.

FUNDRAISING:

Denise Brown reported:

- D. Brown reviewed her handout outlining: a brief history of how the Fundraising Committee began, all the processes involved in the sale, storage and purchasing of MG merchandise, and how MSUE could support MGSOC's efforts to fundraise and raise awareness.
- D. Brown reviewed the upcoming 2024 fundraising events.
- D. Brown suggested that she could store all MGSOC merchandise at her home and cancel the storage unit.

HOSPITALITY:

Kathy Sobanski reported:

- K. Sobanski reported that we will continue to supply light snacks and water at our upcoming general meetings. She would like to continue to get emails for food signup.

DOOR PRIZE & RAFFLE COORDINATOR:

Janie Grissom reported:

- J. Grissom reported that she will continue to do a small raffle at the MGSOC general monthly meetings resuming, probably after the 2024 MGSOC conference.

EDUCATION:

Amanda Koran absent:

- E. Lardner reported on the upcoming 2024 MGSOC speaker presentations.

MEMBERSHIP/ELECTIONS:

Julie Bird absent:

- Nothing new to report.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

Cecily Roney reported:

- C. Roney reported that lots of cards are being sent out and that she will send out a card within 24 hours of notification.

BOWERS FARM:

Nancy Schmid absent:

- Nothing new to report.

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS:

Julie Fromm reported:



- Nothing new to report.

TRIPS & TOURS:

Chair to be determined:

- Nothing new to report.

Marketing & Communications:

Sally Bolle reported:

- S. Bolle gave out new business cards and notecards for C. Roney to use as corresponding secretary.

OLD BUSINESS:

- No old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

- E. Lardner and S. Bolle are working on a business plan to present to MSUE regarding our merchandise apparel and the MSUE logo as suggested by Caitlin Spawski, MSUE Consumer Educator.

Motion: Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Required hours: 1.50.

Next Meeting: March 18, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. zoom

- All reports are available from the Secretary. Requests must be made in writing. These minutes will be posted on our website, but without financial information. They may also be edited for content.
- Website: www.mgsoc.org.