

Botanical Garden Committee Meeting Minutes – August 14, 2019

Attendees: Craig Farland, Linda Swanson, Pat Naughton, Pat Booth, Krys Ochota, Amanda Kiel, Mark Matteson, Anne Coleman, Shawn Lennon and Gayle Pfeiffer

Old Business:

Pamphlets/handouts for each Garden –

Those Gardens remaining to be done are: Discovery, Reflection and Azalea. Amanda will continue to work with those Leads. All handouts will be presented to the MG Board for review/approval on October 8th.

Additionally, Amanda briefed that she contacted Brunswick County GIS Department to prepare a map of the Botanical Garden. She provided a USB with drone photos of the BG. This is a significant step in eventually having a professional looking map available for the visiting public.

Standardization for Signage for plant ID signs for the BG –

Amanda will continue to work with the Gardens, especially Discovery Garden, to provide more labels to identify plants.

Garden Signs –

We discussed having a welcome sign to the BG. It should include verbiage that acknowledges the EMGVs for the work and EMGVA for the funding. Krys has moved forward and discussed this sign with Sam for possible Extension funding for the sign. Additionally, Anne showed us a proposal for the Celebration Garden. We discussed having signs for the Fragrance, Reflection, Azalea and Meadow/Propagation Gardens. Several of these signs will be smaller than the other Garden signs.

5 Year Strategic Plan Development –

We discussed having a separate, dedicated meeting to only work on this plan. Initially, each Garden Team Lead will review their own Garden's future/potential. Gayle will ask the MG Association, what do they feel the BG needs. We'll try to make time for a BG "walkabout" on the September 3rd meeting. We will meet on October 23rd at 1 PM to work on the BG 5 Year Strategic Plan.

New Business:

Potting Shed Improvements –

We discussed Pat N.'s proposal to remove the old wire racks on the back wall and replace with plastic shelving. Pat has measured and computed how many shelves we will need for the back wall. He will buy one and put it up for us to look at and see what we think. We also discussed buying a restaurant type deep sink with two bays for either

pot washing/hand washing, to be located near the faucet/hose. Lots of discussion on the whether pot washing is productive. Gayle (and everyone) will look at some restaurant equipment businesses for any used sinks. This topic to be continued.

Pond Repair –

Shawn has contacted Cape Fear Water Gardens, again, to get a cost estimate on the repair/replacement/improvement of the pond and water feature. He said they have a labor shortage and seem to be overwhelmed right now. We talked about other possible companies coming to bid on this project. Shawn is going to contact Carolina Creations. Gayle will contact the miniature Golf Course in Wilmington, Brookgreen Gardens, Cape Fear Botanical Garden at a minimum to see who they may use to work on their water features.

Hoop House Availability Date –

Shawn stated that with the heat/weather, probably October will be the best time to make it available for use again.

Green House weed control –

Shawn sprayed the green house the morning before this meeting to kill the weeds. The product he used also has a pre-emergent.

2020 Budget Submissions –

Gayle changed the deadline for each Garden Team Lead to have their budget requirements to her. Each Lead is to use the new Budget Committee form for their submission to Gayle by August 31st.

BG Fall Work Day Date/Shalotte Coastal Garden Club Tour request for tour –

After much discussion about future Garden Club tours, we agreed to have our first Brunswick County Botanical Garden Open House. We will specifically invite the Shallotte Garden Club to attend this in lieu of an individual tour. Tentatively, it will be on Saturday, October 26th from 9 AM until Noon.

Since this is near Halloween, each themed Garden is to have their own version of a scarecrow.

Therefore, in preparation for the Open House, we will have a BG Fall Work Day on Tuesday, October 22nd from 9 AM until Noon with Thursday, October 24th as a back up date.

Next BG Committee meeting is Tuesday, September 3rd at 1100.