

Master Gardener Volunteer Meeting Minutes March 6, 2018

40 in attendance

Wendy Tate called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Speaker was Bill Leake, the Concord City Arborist who spoke about the Concord Urban Forestry Program.

- A current study shows Concord with 42% canopy of trees. The goal is 50%.
- Current trends- Townhouses with limited green space and HOA's as land holders.
- Current needs- to improve landscape requirements, have a tree ordinance as part of the city code, increase forest protection and cultural changes that considers urban forests.
- How to help- attend city and county council meetings and make our voice heard.
- Home gardens- use natural land management to benefit all- trees, vegetables, fruits and flowers.

10:30 break

10:50 meeting re-adjourned

Wendy asked to have the minutes approved from last month. Ellen Vanderburg moved to accept and Bob Wilbur seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Gerri Harris gave the treasurer's report.

Mandy Smith-Thompson gave a short presentation on the upcoming City Nature Challenge which includes the county of Cabarrus.

- April 27-30, 2018
- You can attend the events or take pictures wherever you are.
- Create an account on Inaturalist.org and practice taking pics and uploading them. During the event they will need to be attached to the event.
- April 10 at 6:30 pm there is a train the trainer event at Frank Liske Park at the soccer meeting room.
- April 27 at 10 am meet at Concord Library and hike the greenway
- April 28 at 10 am will be a family friendly event at Frank Liske Park.
- April 29 at Camp Spenser there will be experts to help explore and take pics
- April 30 at 6:30 pm at the Cabarrus Brewing Company there will be a moth-focused event in their pollinator garden.
- For more information go to facebook cabcocnc.

Lauren Hill gave her report.

- Rhubarb research project going well and she will need volunteers to help harvest in the future. An email will be sent out.
- March 14 is the Senior Health and Wellness Day from 9:30-12 noon and our booth will be handing out samples of micro greens from Luckleaf.
- 4H summer camp program released and will be June- Aug. Lauren is doing a Jr. Master Gardener Program on July 24 from 9-3 pm. If you are interested in volunteering please email her.

- Frost/ freeze warnings are still in our future so please protect your tender plants with buckets, sheets, pots, or blankets.
- She will be doing a Vegetable Gardening Program at the Mt Pleasant Library on April 4 at 5:30 pm.
- Pesticide program is finished.
- Concord Civic Garden Center Symposium on 3/28/18 with Dr Mellichamp speaking

Karen Lankheet thanked all who have contributed to the newsletter and asked everyone to keep up the good work!

Renee Hedrick Read the Toys for Tots thank you letter to us and presented the certificate.

She then spoke about the upcoming Herb and Plant Festival. Any non-plant but garden related items can be brought to the Extension Office prior to the date. These items will be stored in our off-site storage area and will need volunteers to help clean and price them a week prior to April 14.

She passed around a sign-up sheet for volunteer time slots in our booth and a sheet to sign up for what plants you will be bringing.

Gerri will bring to the Extension Office various plant labeling items and other things to share for those that need them.

Lynn MacDougall-Fleming announced there is a meeting of the Food and Farm Council on March 8, 2018 at the Concord Brewing Company at 6 pm. There will be 2 speakers presenting.

Tickets were drawn for prizes.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am