Steering Committee Meeting  
Sunday, April 7, 2019  
Windsor Chapter


Gift Basket for the MG State Conference: The northern chapters are requesting that each chapter consider providing a gift basket to be raffled at the conference. Cutoff date will be October 1. Helen will collect the items for the basket. Some suggestions were homemade raspberry jam (Elaine), fruit or dried figs from her land (Tina), gardening gloves and $25 gift certificate from Gardener’s Supply. For anyone donating to the gift basket, contact Helen (hprussian@comcast.net, or 802 436 5950).

Plant sale: This will be held at Hartford Recycling Center and Springfield Recycling Center on Saturday, May 11 (Mother's Day weekend) from 9 to 12. Phil and Gloria Hammond have offered their tent and tables to be set up in Springfield, and some vegetables plants. Elaine will furnish some seeds she has saved from her fabulous garden. Asking people to start dividing plants so they look nice by the sale date. Contact Helen (hprussian@comcast.net or Cindy Heath (cheath58@gmail.com). We will get hanging baskets from In The Garden. Cindy will check with owner to make sure he does not use pesticides containing neonicotinoids. Helen, Gloria and Phil Hammond, Carol Trueheart will be in Springfield. Cindy and Bob Little Tree will need assistance in Hartford. Short discussion about invasive plants also took place, solarizing vs stacking vs using pesticides.

Introduce new interns and project leaders: Cindy Heath oversees projects and has visited all the projects in the southern chapters. She is now overseeing the northern chapter projects. Introduced were some of the projects and the project leaders that were at the meeting. It gave the folks at the meeting a way of checking out where volunteers are needed: Hartland’s herb garden at the library (Helen Prussian); Willing Hands at Cedar Circle Farm in East Thetford (Kim Holzberger and Bartlett Leber) produced 44,000 lbs. of vegetables distributed to food pantries, egular volunteer hours on Tuesdays 9 to 11 a.m. and Thursday evenings 5 to 7 p.m. beginning in May; Carol Trueheart is looking for projects to work on; Bob Little Tree will take over the Hartford Recycling project for Paula LaPlant who might be moving out of the area; Sarah Edelman, intern, helps at the community garden in Ludlow and helping with outreach to students/interns for chapter development in Windsor County; Elaine Brousseau and Nancy Kenison takes care of the church revitalization project in Hartland and they are looking for assistance; intern Marsha Wayler from Ludlow will be our new promotions person for Windsor Chapter and looking to help at a project; Margaret Solon, intern, interested in helping at the Upper Valley Haven; Alma Zwikelmaier, garden manager for Justin Morrill Homestead in East Strafford looking for volunteers; Christine Barney, owns a fruit and nut orchard, and in the next
year or two is considering having a garden tour on her property to discuss permaculture and food security.

The Haven which services folks struggling with poverty providing food and shelter. Cindy announced that they meet weekly either Wednesday afternoons or Saturday mornings focusing on planting and harvesting vegetables, maintaining fruit trees, berry bushes, perennial beds, composting.

Cindy had a slide show presentation of all the projects (there are around 80 projects around the state).

Cindy showed us how to access the projects on the UVM website. This is on the home page called Project or Gardening Resources. This has the list of all the projects and the location map. The listserv address is uvmemg@list.uvm.edu. Helen raffled off three gardening books.

**Project Leader Reimbursement:** Reminder that each project leader in the Windsor Chapter is entitled to reimbursement up to $25 for any material needed for their project. A receipt would be needed for reimbursement.

**Treasurer's Report:** New EIN at Mascoma Bank allowing us to receive tax-deductible donations for our chapter. Balance as of 3/5/19 is $1,123.23.

**Gift giving - Cindy:** A thank you gift to acknowledge all the past and present project leaders/Steering Committee members for their hard work volunteering hours on their projects. Last fall, a group made tea towels. These were distributed at the meeting. Great idea, Cindy.

**Other:** Recording hours -- there is a PDF form on the website that can be downloaded to track your hours. Since the organization doesn't get any state funding, collecting stories and photos to share with possible grantors is requested. The chapter has a newsletter written by Susan Berry who is also in need of stories. Events coming up for the Chapter include the Plant Sale May 11; Pruning Fruit Trees at Howard Dean Education Center in Springfield with Eric Bragg; on June 8 from 9 to 12; Albert Mondor from Canada speaking on growing edibles as part of your landscape on September 29 at Damon Hall; statewide conference at Shelburne Farms in November; 2020 planning meeting for Windsor Chapter on November 9 at Cobb Hill Cohousing, time not yet determined.

Also brought up was each chapter donating funds to have a table at the NOFA Conference regarding master gardener information. Sarah Edelman will check in with Beret.

Transcribed by Helen Prussian