

MINUTES - ST. LOUIS HOSTA SOCIETY MEETING, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019

Diana Plahn called the meeting to order at 7PM. She thanked everyone for coming. This is a new time and day for our meeting and hopefully more members will attend.

We need volunteers to chair the MoBot Hosta Sale if we want to continue doing this in the future. Phyllis Weidman has agreed to chair the event this year with Janelle Criscione and Barb Moreland helping her. We thank the three of them for working on this fundraiser for the club this year. We need a volunteer to chair this sale starting in 2020.

We did not have the Club plant sale this year but hope to bring this event back in 2020. Basil Honaker, Jr. has agreed to chair the Club Plant Sale for 2020 and will look for a nursery where we can obtain the hostas. Basil also agreed to serve as auctioneer for the Members Plant Auction in July, which is being chaired by Ted Piekutowski.

Since the potluck was cancelled due to weather, David Birenbaum has volunteered his home and garden for a June picnic (date to be published later.) We are also going to visit the Hosta gardens at Mo Bot sometime in June (date to be published.) This will be in addition to our Work Day in May but this time we will just enjoy the beauty of the hosta gardens.

Melissa Byrd, Treasurer, passed out a report showing Final Budget for 2018 as of 3/20/19. Melissa also reported that our new web page is almost finished and will soon be up and running.

Vice President Martha LaFata who is in charge of programs is going to try to get a national speake for September and October from the Speaker Bureau of the American Hosta Society.

Diana reported that Mo Bot has requested that we increase our donation so they can put in a new irrigation system. They want to connect the system to a box that will enable them to automatically water each section at a certain time. The total estimated cost is \$2700 to redo this system. It would be taken out of our General Fund. Diana Plahn proposed that we donate \$1000 to the Garden for the irrigation system. Bruce Buehrig proposed that we make it \$2700 since we have the money in the bank. There was much discussion. Some wondered if the Garden would have a special event at the Garden in return for this donation. Barb Moreland said would we get a plaque? A motion was made, seconded and voted on to donate \$2700 to the Missouri Botanical Gardens for this purpose.

Diana introduced two new members at this meeting, Judy Graman and Lynn Teller.

Our meeting concluded and was followed by Phyllis Weidman presenting Hosta 101. She discussed what we should be doing now for our hostas. It is time to give them some fertilizer and they use Osmocote, a timed release fertilizer – later when it gets hotter it will dump all at once and then the hostas will need more fertilizer.

Following Phyllis's presentation our speaker Bruce Buehrig, spoke on Woodland Wonders. He gave a very informative presentation about the use of conifers and trees in our landscape. All the photos were from his beautiful yard and certainly gave all of us a lot of great ideas of what to add to our landscape.

Respectfully submitted,
Jolly Ann Whitener, Secretary