Phyllis started the short meeting that preceded the auction by discussing the current heat wave and drought. Her suggestions and those of other members were to keep watering as much as possible, do not cut back plants, and to take out a loan for your next water bill.

The member bus trip to Champaign, Il has been cancelled. For the published cost, it was necessary to have approximately 40 people sign up. Only 18 expressed an interest. The Board will begin thinking about next year and would appreciate suggestions on where, when and how long.

There is no meeting scheduled for August. The September meeting will be a tour of Bell Gardens which is a part of Gateway Greening. Information and directions will be in the next newsletter.

Phyllis gave an update on the Missouri Botanical Gardens project. The new species bed is thriving. She has acquired five more species hostas which will be planted this fall. There are seven more to locate. The American Hosta Association’s next Journal will contain an article about our efforts.

Phyllis thanked the member auction chair, Mike Schmitt, and all his volunteers. There were 35 bid numbers assigned. The afternoon concluded with an auction of hostas and companion plants.