

# *Yamhill County Master Gardeners Association*

## *Executive Board Minutes for April 13, 2016 4.16.4*

**Meeting was called to order by Randy Williamson at 10:01 a.m. on above date.**

**First Item** was mention of the completed audit which will be sent to Randy. He will then present it to the Board.

**Treasurer's Report:** Carol reported that she had spent a large amount of time finding an accounting discrepancy, with turned out to be a check to the Community Center August 2015, which had not been cashed. **The Community Center does this as a way of making a donation to the Master Gardeners, so no new check is issued. (Sentence in bold is correction from version .1).** Currently there is a total of \$17,400.02 in all accounts. Carol will **do her best to** finalize the report and email it to members next week.

**OMGA Representative's Report:** For the Minicollege silent auction, 10 or more items are needed, each of at least \$25 Value. Anyone with an item to donate is asked to email a description of it to Apryl. Apryl also presented a spread sheet of the proposed budget adjustments recommended by the committee working on the OMGA budget proposals. The proposal was approved by Pat, seconded by Randy, and agreed upon by everyone.

**Jaynie**, a member of the 2016 class, was introduced as the new class representative for 2016.

**Announcements/Correspondence:** We still needed a desk captain. Obligations of this post include checking in the office at least once per week; checking to be sure trainees at the desk also have a veteran; that all times are covered; and to send reminders to all signed-up parties reminding them of their desk duty. Randy volunteered to do the job jointly with Janie, who at that point was quickly drafted before she could object. Again the problem of online signup versus paper and pen signup was discussed, as approximately 10% of Master Gardeners still do not have computer access. It was suggested that online be the complete signup, and that perhaps a board member could have the responsibility of transferring signups from the papers to the website. At that, all board members tried to appear short and inconsequential. Also, Jade Morgan has been hired to work in the office, starting immediately. Eventually she will be the contact for Master Gardeners, but for now Kelli remains in that role.

**Demonstration Garden** report by Patti: Most of the beds are going to be redone, and people are needed to take on the responsibility for a bed. That includes coming up with themes for the beds: themes must be something not stressed in other MG gardens; it needs to be educational; it should be something different from past themes. Ideas could include pollinator-friendly plants, special situation plant choices, et. Al. She also mentioned that the rose garden irrigation system will be replaced in May, and that we need to keep the focus in all gardens on public education.

**Greenhouse and Plant Sale:** Everything is going well: help pricing plants for the plant sale is needed Tuesday, 4-19, at 9:00 a.m. Alan will format and print plant labels as needed, but there's no way he will be cutting them. More plant sale roadside signs need to be placed, particularly in the more "less-crowded" towns such as Willamina and Grande Ronde.

There is an ongoing issue—new this year—about the procurement of liability insurance for the plant sale. Because YCMGA is not a corporation, somehow we cannot sign the forms for the liability coverage, and that threatens the sale event even being held at the fairgrounds. Vendors apparently must have liability insurance, an expense that will likely make it too expensive for most vendors to participate. There is the possibility that YCMGA will be "grandfathered" in this year only, which would be a reprieve. Sylvia will be meeting with the fairgrounds attorney on this issue, and asked the board to make a decision as soon as possible re: incorporation.

**Camellia Festival** was on Saturday 4-19. Gene manned the YCMGA booth, having 12 contacts and 2 intakes. His hearing may now be impaired, as the booth was next to the stage.

**Education/Outreach Committee** report was given by Pat. She summarized the SIG surveys; attendance was excellent. Focus now is on the 50/50 meetings: half education, half talking and eating. Here is a schedule. (All are 3-4 p.m). **All at Public Works Aud.**

5/19: Michael re: **amphibians in the garden**. (A correction from version .1)

6/16: Sue (and hopefully Gene) Nesbitt re: the REAL Japanese Gardens.

5/07: Oregon Flora Project from 9 a.m. to noon, and will qualify for educational credits

6/20: Heather giving tour of the Community Gardens, 2-4 p.m

6/26: Mac. Garden Club Tour. For this there is a \$5.00 charge, with 30 students maximum.

Gene announced public education events at the demo. Gardens. In July it will be about designing gardens, and about the greenhouse in fall. We will need signage before the tours, of course. A good idea would be to have leaflet dispenser boxes at the various gardens, containing one-sheet discussions of the gardens.

**Garden Tours:** David Christie has planned a clematis tour in West Linn in late May, probably on a Tuesday. Cost will be \$5 each. In July we will get a tour of Bailey's Nursery, and we'll visit the Oregon Gardens later in the year.

**Community Gardens:** Linda Mason reported the gardens are progressing well. Members harvested 30 pounds of winter vegetables (even after the deer damage) and donated that to YCAP. Drip tape for the new irrigation system is being laid out, and the McMinnville Garden Club has offered to help with the kids' garden. On Saturdays 5/7 and 5/14 Linfield students will help with the plant sale at the garden. Also, the Mac. Garden Club will include our Community Garden on their tour.

**McMinnville Farmers Market** has been saved by Tom offering to operate it. In computer-related matters, Tom announced that signups will be online, and any old-style physical signups must go through the office, which Tom will then insert on the website. We need to stress the need for signups for the educational/social hour events also.

**Newberg Farmers Market**, Sue reported, is moving back to First Street, which is a much more visible spot. It will be on Wednesdays from 1 to 6. Two people have volunteered, but 2 more are needed 5/18.

**Mini-College** will take place August 4 and 5. All speakers have been obtained; registration will open May 1. Four more chairpeople are needed for: cookies; volunteer coordination; chapter sales (of shirts, aprons, etc.) for 3 or 4 chapters; and the Thursday night before the event. Apryl will chair **the committee for decorations for the potluck, but not the potluck itself**. On August 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be a 4-hour workshop on using social media for communication. All trainees will receive \$50 off admission to Mini-college (notice of which should be emailed to the individuals).

**Publicity:** Tom, Rita, and Pat are taking care of this aspect. Still need ideas for the radio show, which is fun and recorded in a welcoming and comfortable location (Sharon's home).

**Newberg High School** still needs more volunteers. Representatives from OSU will soon be visiting to observe the program.

**Spring into Gardening** is finished for this year, but the first organizational meeting for **2017** will be in June!

**MG Facebook Site:** Rita is "still plugging away" on the site.

**MG Website** was provided by Tom. There have been some problems with Paypal on the site (which Tom will repair) and there were 44 payments made on it for memberships. The Camellia festival is now on the site.

**Seed-to-Table** in Newberg is now finished. Problem is, more Spanish speakers are needed for the program as we have only 2. In other towns there are 10 trainees working to qualify for the program, and are looking for host organizations. Some people for the McMinnville version are needed, to be trained.

**Structures at the fairgrounds** are in need of repair this spring. The siding on the front of the greenhouse needs to be replaced with something that admits more light, and a metal structure is needed in Grow Alley. Both projects must be completed by June first. Sharon will be the designing brains on these projects, but grunt labor is still needed. Volunteers must wait until construction dates are set.

**Candace** suggested we have more communication re: events as sometimes new people are left out. Rhonda-style personal emails worked well and should be continued.

**Meeting was adjourned** at 12:06 p.m. by Randy.