

Yamhill County Master Gardeners Association
Executive Board Minutes for December 2016 & January, 2017
Meeting held on January 24, 2017 (in conjunction with
YCMGA Graduation and Awards Ceremonies

Meeting called to order by Pat Fritz at 4:59 p.m. (prior to YCMGA graduation) on above date.

In attendance: (Bold = Board member)

<i>Anna Ashby</i>	Nancy Woodworth			
Carol Parks	Tom Canales	Pat Fritz	<i>Cathy Burdett</i>	Linda Coakley
<i>Gail Price</i>	<i>Linda Mason</i>	<i>Alan Wenner</i>	Donn Callaham	
Rita Canales	<i>Gene Nesbitt</i>	<i>Sue Nesbitt</i>	Apryl Garmon	<i>Lynn Pollock</i>

First Item was approval of secretary’s minutes, which we judged to be from the “retreat” in November. Because of weather issues, that was the most recent meeting we have had.

Treasurer’s report: Carol Parks mentioned that her first year as Treasurer was challenging (not in a good way) and plagued with difficulties. Her goal for 2017 is to get the financial reports completed and distributed during the first week of every month. Both Anna and Carol have decided to have the reports available on the members-only website. The annual audit is planned for Saturday, February 4th, 2017. The audit will be conducted according to the OMGA treasurer guidelines. Carol also handed out some MG i.d. cards she found, which may be good for discounts at some retailers (and, may not). The vote on the budget by members (to be held that same evening) was planned: After posting the proposed budget on all the dinner tables, members would be asked to quickly review the numbers, and then everyone would verbally vote for or against the budget.

Unscheduled Misc. Comments: A card from one of the scholarship recipients was noted. Pat brought up the “Beneficial Insects” laminated card sets (found in Jade’s desk), asking if the group should sell them or donate them. We don’t know how many sets there are, so the question was moot for the time being. They were once sold for \$5.00 a set, but some people agreed they should be given to the trainees, and possibly put in the baskets for SIG. Pat said that the OAN (Oregon Association of Nurseries) had offered to give an unlimited number of maps of area nurseries, and it was decided to ask for 200 of them, to distribute at SIG.

Presidents-elect report: Both officers agreed that they were doing a magnificent job, but provided no details.

Education/Outreach Committee: An educational outreach form created by Gene, to be completed by each committee chair, was introduced but not put in action until Gene explains it at the February board meeting on the 8th. This form will be used by committee members to justify and clarify the CE hours they earn. Gene strongly suggested that everyone attend that meeting “for their own good.” The committee has planned the following clinics: Farm Fest on 4/8; Camelia Festival also on 4/8; Native Plant Sale (YCSWCD) on Saturday 3/5; Kraemer’s on 3/25 and 6/10; Wilco and Fred Meyer to be arranged. The First “Lunch & Learn” event will be February 8, featuring Michael O’Loughlin on “Beetle Banks.” The next one (3/8) is being arranged. Several public presentations are also planned: Heather will do a Linfield Tree i.d. walk in May or June, and we will visit the Community Garden later in the year. Beginning right now, **All signups for EOC activities will be online only.** All clinics need at least one veteran and hopefully 2 trainees, and Nancy will work with Tom on doing that online. Gene has contacted Brian Stewart of Newberg (the originator of the City of Newberg’s extraordinary landscaping) to do a presentation on the xeriscaping at Newberg Library, probably to take place in May.

OMGA Representatives: Per Linda Coakley, contact Apryl or Linda if you have any problems with the OMGA online site.

The World-Wide Web: Tom will set up all activity with online signups, and answer all questions. Membership renewals and SIG registration are both doing well, and have been quite active. Per Rita the SIG posters are ready, and will be released February 2nd.

Spring into Gardening (SIG): Gene reported that everything is in place: The raffle has been set up, sponsors found and committed (to sponsoring), a gift card will be given to each speaker, and the sponsors will be included on the YCMGA website. This year the

goal is to support the sponsors fully and give them adequate credit for their support. Capacity for the event will be 200 attendees, and Tom will eviscerate the on-line signup when that number is reached. Last year people wanted to buy the bushes which Kraemer's lent for display: this year there is a plan for that. A Kraemer's employee will be present: the bushes can be sold during the event, but will be tagged with purchaser's name and kept for display until the end of the event. When asked about progress on speaker notes, the reply was a tentative "We're working on it." (Apparently, it is challenging to get notes from all the speakers).

Seed-to-Supper: Gene is leading this event also, and still needs one or more "fairly bilingual" volunteers. (Volunteers must be certified MG's or working on their certification). All hours will count as educational hours. The program is planned well for this year, and progressing. Linfield will continue their program wherein Linfield students build raised bed boxes for qualifying and motivated families to install at their own homes.

Mentoring: The 2017 class has 21 or 22 new members (with some changes still going on). The only problem has been that some of the people sitting near the back of the auditorium cannot hear the speaker well, presumably because of illegal conversations.

Nomination Committee—2017 officer nominees: This year will not use a written ballot, primarily because no one volunteered for any office, and no one nominated anyone else for any office. Same people, same jobs.

Conditional approval of 2017 budget: (See process described under "Treasurer's Report" in this document). Carol explained that the budget is not balanced yet: it will be considered a guide to expenditures, and will be formally reviewed probably every 3 months (and adjusted as necessary). Historically, expenditures have generally been overestimated in budgets, which is a nice thing. Sue asked if the legal fees were included in the budget, and was assured that they were. Budget was approved verbally by the membership, and not a single person voted "nay."

Update of incorporation: Because of major communication lapses with the attorney who was planned to do the incorporation, he will not be hired. The process seems pretty doable for a reasonably intelligent person, so it will be done by members only. Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) clearly lists the documents needed for any organization earning less than \$50,000 per year, and will process everything online. The organization must also register with the IRS (a most-familiar entity) using IRS forms. IRS will provide a tax i.d. # for YCMGA, which is needed for the PayPal operation and perhaps other functions. Pat, Linda, and Carol will do the paperwork, and claim that they are doing so of their own free will. Carol will send an email to the attorney, cancelling his proposed services. The entire process should be done on time for the plant sale, but if for some reason it is not we still will be able to get insurance for the 2017 plant sale. Heather will be the contact, since she is the most stable person on the scene.

A New Awards Selection Process: Because no one could find a record of the qualifications for recipients of YCMGA awards for 2016, the awards committee plans to reorganize and get everything written into a permanent record. Since Cathy has a mental record of past awards activity she, Anna Ashby, and Nancy will turn this into a model of efficiency and visibility.

Voting for 2017 officers: This was not a very exciting time because of the absence of new nominees or volunteers for any office at all. Fortunately no one quit, so all officers are the same as in 2016. However, Apryl did say that Becky Karver has offered to co-chair the Décor Committee. Then Tonia Beebe offered to be a Member-at-Large, and all the officers were voted into office verbally. (Would that U.S. elections were so straightforward and amicable).

The end came at 5:42 p.m. (very efficient!) when Pat adjourned the meeting, and Linda seconded the action.

Donn Callaham, Secretary—January 24th, 2017