

Executive Board Minutes for February 08, 2017

Meeting called to order by Pat Fritz at 10:02 a.m. on above date.

In attendance: (Bold = Board member)

Anna Ashby	Nancy Woodworth	Lynn Pollock	Doris Crimmins	Ruth Rogers	
Carol Parks	Tom Canales	Pat Fritz	Cathy Burdett	Michael Lester	
Linda Coakley	Donn Callaham	Gail Price	Linda Mason	Alan Wenner	Linda Mason
Rita Canales	Gene Nesbitt	Sue Nesbitt	Apryl Garmon	Tonia Beebe	Eileen McBride

First Item was disapproval of secretary's minutes from last year. Gene had wanted some words removed but the Secretary had not received the message: the words have now been removed and notes from December 2016 are done. An unscheduled visit from Jade let us know that Jade was representing Heather. There would be training for VRS (determining categories) after the March 08 board meeting plus VRS training for trainees on March 16th. Veterans are invited to either or neither. The training will count for 1 hour of educational credit.

Treasurer's Report: Carol Parks has emailed the finished reports for January, and the audit was completed on February 4th, 2017.

President-elects' Report: Rita had nothing to report. The other President-elect had left the room, to reappear later.

Announcements: Tonia Beebe was welcomed as the new Member-at-Large (for which she had volunteered).

Education/Outreach Committee: Rita listed upcoming events already planned: a possible talk re: herbs; Heather re: trees at Linfield; Newberg's xeriscape gardens. Details will always be on the web site and in the *Grapevine*. Wilco will no longer have "potting days" so something else may be arranged. The issue of whether or not to use online sign-up is back on the table because of new information not available at the December/January meeting. Also, supply boxes for clinics will be organized more tightly this year. There will be 3 boxes with inventory lists which Rita will check weekly, and people using the boxes will be signing them out.

Community Garden: Alan and Linda Mason reported that 17 beds + 5 beds for *Seed-to-Supper* families have been reserved. On March 28th there will be a garden orientation in the morning, and on March 25th the garden officially opens. Linfield students will begin helping in April, and Alan has been moving potting soil. All is going well.

OMGA Reps.: There will be a leadership conference in Salem, on March 3rd, beginning at 1:00 p.m. for MGA board members in Oregon, to instruct MG officers how to do their jobs. There will also be an OMGA board meeting the next day.

Web/Publicity: Everything is going quite well on the web. In trying to address poor design and function of member lists it was hoped that there could be just one list instead of the current two. One is an office list and the other on the web, but they both have errors in addresses and other information, they do not match each other, and neither can be depended upon. However, combining the 2 lists into one updated correct list will not be allowed. Now the only way to verify accuracy is for someone to manually check every name, address, email, etc. one by one, regularly. Jade is already busy enough; who might do that is an unknown. Tom would also like to add the following categories to each listing: current certification status, whether or not dues have been paid, graduation date, and hours earned to date. However, only if there is a solution to the dysfunctional lists could these be added.

MG signup Processes: Re: digital signup for office and other clinics: "Sign-up.com" limits the choices of hours people can pick. Now it is set up for 2-hour shifts, but can be changed to one-hour shifts. If we go with online signup the old physical signup book could no longer be used. Jade will talk with Ruth Estrada, who was "Desk Captain" last year. Rita motioned that all clinic signups be online, 6 board members condoned her thought, and it became law. Plant sale signups will be book only for this year, and are available now.

Publicity: Everything is ready for plant sale publicity, except for the installation of posters across the county. The plant sale details will be on the YCMGA website next week.

Spring into Gardening: Everything is in place. A backup person to handle the raffle/door prize job is needed because Sharon may not be able to do it as she had planned. Becky Karver gallantly volunteered to be available if necessary. The signup sheets for SIG now need to have all

volunteer slots filled; for this year the signup will still be in a paper book. We need only 129 more applicants to fill the quota of attendees. Tom has contacted and given promotional information to all local newspapers, radio stations, and tv stations. He has even been interviewed by the *News-Register* staff for a possible article!

Seed-to-Supper: Spring classes are in the planning stage. Hosts for now will be the Church on the Hill, a Newberg housing unit, and St. Michael's Episcopal church. The program will commence on April 8th, making a conflict with the plant sale and some clinics. Spanish-speaking instructors are still needed.

Mentoring: Mentoring seems to be going as planned. Pat plans to give a short presentation at the 2-09 Thursday class to help trainees differentiate among YCMGA, OMGA, and OSU extension. Note that though the last class is now on March 23rd, **the potluck will still be as scheduled on March 16th.**

Plant Sale Committee: The group met today before the board meeting. They decided to keep current signage, and apply an adhesive correction sticker, at the bottom of the poster, to show current dates. Next year the sale will have to be pushed to the first week of May because of prior scheduling by the Fair Board—no choice for YCMGA. That should be permanent, but must be entered in the fairgrounds calendar every year by a Master Gardener, as it is no longer done by fairgrounds personnel.

Greenhouse Committee: Yesterday seeds were started, and now it is up to the (mercurial) weather. Work will be done every Tuesday beginning at 9:00 a.m. The order of plugs will be picked up March 6th, so the "Big Transplant" will happen March 7th. *HELP IS DEFINITELY NEEDED FOR THE BIG TRANSPLANT.*

IMG Convention: Apryl stated that she has an excellent idea for creation of the competitive bicycle art display, but she covets her idea and refuses to divulge any details. "Someone's husband" (not a Master Gardener) will be drafted to work on it, but anyone who wants to help is welcome to do so. There are quite a few requirements to meet, and Nancy asked if plastic flowers could be used. The uproarious response made the answer to that quite plain. There will not be the hoped-for 1-day registration option for attending the convention for a surprising reason: in the past attendees have used the 1-day passes to cheat and use them for all 3 days. Countering that problem would require more labor than is available or practical.

Camellia Festival: This will be held on April 8th, a Saturday, in Newberg. Sue Nesbitt really encourages people to attend: she says it will be very loud, colorful, and feature lots of performing kids. The high school will also be selling camellia bushes, and Sue will woman the MG table (so she needs no help there).

Scholarships: Sue is the woman on this as well. She has already put the promotional information on the web and visited all the local high schools. She even found a small private school consisting of mostly 4H members. In order to receive a scholarship, a student must be enrolled in college full-time. The scholarship will be put on hold temporarily for part-time students.

Newberg Farmers' Market: Ruth Rogers was here to fill us in on that: essentially, nothing much is happening. There could *possibly* be an MG booth there, but only on certain dates. (The "all-or-nothing" restriction was erased). Location will be the same downtown location as last year, but attendance (vendors and shoppers both) has always been very minimal.

Incorporation update: We have not yet received a reply from the state re: removing the YCMGA "assumed business name". Not surprising, but we are waiting for a reply to be able to continue the process. The free nursery maps will arrive in mid-March (too late for SIG) but should be useful to have available for customers at the plant sale.

Education hours credit form: A sample of a completed form (created by Gene and Rita) was passed around, and explained. The purpose of the form is to meet the new requirements to identify every educational project and what kind of education each part of each project provides. It will have to be filled out by the MG who will be teaching, at least one week in advance of every lesson, and approved by Heather before any learning happens. There was a long discussion of: how it might work; how it needed to be filled out; why it is required; the added work for "instructors;" and how to clarify the type of educational credits for each part of each activity each time an MG might be learning something. (Sadly, just the complexity of that sentence is significant). Use will begin now, and people will understand it over time.

Winding up: Someone plaintively asked, "Are we done now?" But we weren't. Tonia asked if committee times could be coordinated among committees: the answer was "no, days & times change." Linda suggested we adjourn, Rita rapidly seconded that, and the whole thing came to an end at 11:47 a.m.

Donn Callaham, Secretary, February 08, 2017

