

**Yamhill County Master Gardener Association**

**Executive Board Minutes for April 12, 2017**

Meeting called to order by Pat Fritz at 10:00 a.m. on above date.

Board members in **BOLD**

<b>Carol Parks</b>	<b>Tom Canales</b>	<b>Pat Fritz</b>	Cathy Burdett	Anna Ashby
<b>Nancy Woodworth</b>	Alan Wenner	<b>Tonia Beebe</b>	Tara Townley	
Polly Blum	<b>Donn Callaham</b>	Linda Mason	<b>Linda Coakley</b>	
<b>Rita Canales</b>	Gene Nesbitt	Sue Nesbitt	Heather Stoven	

**Incorporation update:** Pat Fritz briefly explained the incorporation notes from our secretary: the board members need to accept or reject them. To that purpose, Pat also passed around the notes. Linda moved to accept them, Tonia seconded the motion, and the board members unanimously agreed to accept the notes as is.

**Introduction** of board of directors' representative for 2017 MG class: Tara Townley volunteered to fill this position. She also is guaranteed a place in history as being the only Yamhill MG to actually write a thank-you note for being "allowed" to volunteer.

**March Secretary's report:** Though members were all asked to read the final copy of the report in the *Grapevine* or on the YCMGA website (both available 2 weeks prior to this meeting), some did not. Since they did not read it, they would not okay it. To make it even simpler in the future, Secretary will (in addition to still including in every issue of *Grapevine* and on website) email it. Another problem was that several people didn't send corrections until 2 weeks *after* the deadline, delaying the entire process. In an effort to alleviate this inconvenience, **Deadline** for changes will be emphasized more often, more regularly, and more loudly in the future.

**Treasurer's Report:** Carol Parks has emailed all finished reports, which are now in the Secretary's notebook. YCMGA now has \$21,698 in the bank. She explained that accounting is by the calendar year, making it difficult to determine SIG profit or loss before the end of the year. There were also some one-off expenses such as yard sale sign conversions. All non-OSU speakers were paid, except for one from Lane County. There was a misunderstanding resulting in one speaker being paid twice (for 2 talks). Heather said that the OSU speakers requested mileage expenses, for which we will have to budget.

**President-elects' Report:** Both members claimed they are just doing what they are told to do.

**Announcements:** Heather alerted us to "open days" for 2 public rhododendron gardens (see details in *Grapevine*). We have an abundance of nursery maps to give away. We need to rewrite the "Memorandum of Understanding" with the Yamhill County Fair Board (because of incorporation), but Heather found the old one, saving effort and time. We are waiting for a new tax i.d. number.

**Education/Outreach Committee:** Nancy was rather garrulous this time. Even though we had 4 clinics on 4/08, Nancy said they all looked professional and approachable. Sue described the Camelia festival: 500 entries, all Pacific Rim countries were represented, and it was fun and LOUD. (She really likes it LOUD). Newberg has a new stand-up sign for clinics; Rita informed Tom that he would be building more of these for our clinics. The Newberg High School plant sale will also have an MG clinic every week (Saturdays), and there will be one at Kraemer's on June 10. Nancy reminded people to sign up for the Chehalem Park event, and Mary Murphy will not be able to do her presentations on 6/14 and 7/29. No tours have yet been planned: our worn "After the plant sale" mantra was invoked. On 8/17 Heather will do a walk-and-talk at the Community Garden.

**Community Garden:** Alan Wenner reported that all the drip irrigation systems are installed now. 100 truly massive tomato cages have been fabricated of 3/8" rebar, each cage 5' tall and 1.5' wide. No tomato will escape this year! Cascade Steel donated all the rebar needed. There is a waiting list of 8 people for raised beds, so some food-bank beds may be appropriated for them. 10 families are signed up for the June 3 "Family Planting Day," Linfield helpers will be present on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 72 large containers of lettuce have already been donated to YCAP.

**OMGA representative:** Linda had nothing to say. Barbara called Pat Fritz to get an opinion on the viability of mini-college, but that was already decided last month. The second weekend in July 2018 has been reserved at Linfield College, but this time the Yamhill MG's want another county to host it. Sue has requested help in stuffing participant bags in June for the National convention, and said she will notify people when the help is needed.

**Web/Publicity:** There is no new information, though Tom again reminded everyone that he needs members to supply him with information about events, so he can keep the website current.

**Spring into Gardening:** Registration was down this year; Gene suggested that might have been because the theme of "gardening for the infirm." Perhaps people were too infirm to get there. Sponsors and general support were successful and finances strong. There were many more non-Master Gardeners in attendance, but also very few walk-ins. Planning for 2018 will begin in August. People agreed that duplicate classes were probably not necessary, that reserving 3 rooms is a good plan, and to have it on the third Saturday of March to avoid conflict with other popular McMinnville events. Online registration was a success, but unfortunately very few trainees attended even at ½ price.

**Seed-to-Supper:** Classes are now all in progress. Number of attendees are: 15 for Mac English, 10 for Mac Spanish, 15 for Newberg Spanish, and 8 for Newberg English. Sheridan would like to begin soon, Department of Juvenile Correction plans to start in July and August, and Habitat for Humanity is considering sponsoring classes.

**Awards Committee:** 6 nominations for state awards have been received. On April 13<sup>th</sup> the committee will decide to whom each award should go, and who will do each write-up. Late entries will be promptly discarded. Re: the awards, we don't have anyone meeting the "State Master Gardener" qualifications; "Behind the scenes" will be submitted; "Search for Excellence" (a project) will be submitted; we have too much money to submit "Send a Friend," and no one meets the McNeilan Scholarship qualifications. Much to the chagrin of members, Nancy steadfastly refused to reveal any nominations. She is good at guarding her secrets! The state awards will be presented at the Graduation Ceremony this year, which should be in early November. The onerous updating of Extension Office hall plaques (for hours earned) has been completed, and the plaques now embellish the hall again. Pat cautioned anyone doing this job in the future to *take photos before they remove the plaques* (to determine placement).

**(Patti Gregory not present for NHS report).**

**Propagation Committee:** In order to maintain the Plant Sale reputation for high quality, this year small plants were bought from Peoria Nursery to replace damaged by this winter. The cost \$1.60 each, and retail \$3.00, still leaving an adequate margin. They also require no transplanting and no watering, a welcome bonus for the propagation laborers.

**Plant Sale Committee:** Stickers to update the signs were purchased and installed, and now signs need to be placed. People signed up for distribution; Linda will send the masters for posters to everyone.

**Greenhouse Committee:** Tomatoes and peppers are still struggling, more or less hibernating. We are hoping for some non-rain.

**Scholarships:** We are now waiting for scholarship applications to be submitted. The students must be earning a degree with a major in Horticulture to qualify for the scholarship.

**Incorporation Progress:** We are now incorporated and waiting for our new tax i.d. number (which is now due). Carol, Pat, Anna, and Eileen will form a committee to modify policies and procedures. They plan to pilfer ideas from other counties to save time and effort. We are waiting for the new tax number to close our current bank and PayPal accounts and open new ones.

**Inventory Status:** Secretary Donn recently sent out the request for listings of items belonging to YCMGA valued at \$100+. He has already received 2 responses. Yet to be recorded are the laptop, label machine (which the secretary didn't know he had), microscopes, insect box, herbarium cabinet, and \$100+ books. Donn will follow up on these items, and asks people to notify him if they think of other items that should be on the inventory.

**YCMGA Generosity:** Cathy Burdett calculated the total amount of money that YCMGA has donated to various causes since 2004. (2004 is the first year of complete record-keeping). The totals are astounding: \$71,000 in scholarships, \$2,039 in grants for MG classes, and \$11,446.62 in other donations. The 15-year total is \$84, 462.64!

**Greenhouse Chairwomen:** Patti and Gail will no longer be chairing the greenhouse, beginning this year. Unfortunately, there are no people in training to take their places, though they would be glad to mentor someone. They are considering buying (rather than raising) more plants than previously, but must analyze the costs and profits. They both point out that the job really needs more than just 2 people, and that the stress of running such an involved empire is the worst part of it.

**Tentative dates:** Graduation this year is planned to be before Thanksgiving, weather permitting. The "Retreat" will be in October, the actual date being flexible. Heather and Pat will decide the timing. The graduation will again be at the Heritage Center, probably during the week of October 13<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup>.

Linda Coakley made a motion to adjourn, Carol seconded it, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:36 am.

*Donn Callaham, Secretary. April 12, 2017*