

Meeting called to order by Pat Fritz at 9:01 a.m. on above date. In attendance:

Carol Parks	<i>Cathy Burdett</i>	<i>Susanne Beukema</i>	<i>Heather Stoven</i>	<i>Glenda Hulett-Wenner</i>
Nancy Woodworth	<i>Tonia Beebe</i>	<i>Becky Karver</i>	Donn Callaham	<i>Anna Ashby</i>
<i>Gail Price</i>	<i>Ruth Estrada</i>	Apryl Garmon	Pat Fritz	
<i>Linda Mason</i>	Rita Canales	Linda Coakley	<i>Tara Townley</i>	
Tom Canales	<i>Polly Blum</i>	<i>Alan Wenner</i>		<u>Board members in BOLD</u>

September Secretary's report: Approval of minutes was motioned by Rita, seconded by Tom, and agreed upon by everyone.

Treasurer's report: Carol Parks has already emailed all the Treasurer's Reports. YCMCA at the moment has \$45,448.99 in accounts, \$25,217.30 of which is unrestricted. (The restricted amounts are for the specific purposes of FFA-sponsored scholarships, and fuchsia-related endeavors).

President-elect report: To avoid taking responsibility for reporting, Rita lavishly praised Nancy, the other responsible party.

The Heather report: The training schedule has been completed, and Heather is working on flyers for distribution to potential new students. Heather will be gone for a few weeks. She isn't upset that she'll be spending time in France, seeking new drought-resistant groundcovers. 120 people have been contacted about the upcoming MG classes, and to date 10 people are interested in joining them.

Education/outreach committee: After anguish and discussion, Nancy and Rita have made the decision to drop the "Lunch & Learn" program, due to difficulty in securing speakers, and lack of MG participation. Though members say they need these for earning education hours, there are plenty of other opportunities all year long. The committee is focusing on the main goal of education. Rita, Nancy, Tara, and Heather have received complaints from Master Gardeners that the plant clinics need to have more action, more demonstrations to increase interest in them, so concrete suggestions for such are requested. Since not enough MG's volunteer for all the clinics, the number of proposed clinics is being cut. All store clinics except for Kraemer's are cancelled, though an effort will be made to do requested ones. Tom would like people to offer to be responsible for a theme for the Farmers' Market for each month. Volunteers would plan and prepare materials for the booth demonstrations, but not be expected to man the booth. OSU's "What to do in your garden this month" would be an excellent source. On another topic, Rita will prepare and deliver a stirring speech for new students, to encourage them to participate in MG activities and stick with the program (versus taking the classes, then disappearing). No new field trips are being planned now, due to lack of participation, and the Community Garden staff was thanked for providing their highly successful classes, good for recertification.

Community Garden: Linda Mason reported that over 13,000 pounds of food have now been donated to YCAP, 16 new beds installed, and activity at the Garden is now winding down. Now is harvest time in the greenhouse.

Web/Publicity: Tom still would like to have someone help him run the website, though he seems to have lost all hope of actually getting any help. Registration for "Spring into Gardening" will soon be on the MG website.

Seed-to-Supper: According to Tonia, the first week of classes will end in November. We now have 2 Spanish classes planned for McMinnville, and one for Newberg. Of course, more people are still needed to run the program.

Perennials Propagation: 640 gallon pots have now been filled and planted, the greenhouse is full, and the edibles for June have been ordered. The database is being worked on, and the chain link fence at the pavilion is up. Cuttings are now requested, subject to a number of requirements. Contact staff to learn what you must do if you want to donate plants. Warning: Japanese beetles still spreading!

Plant Sale Committee: The committee has had its first meeting of the year.

Mentoring: All mentor spots have been filled, plus there are three substitute mentors available. First meeting will be on 10-24-17.

McMinnville Farmers' Market: Tom reported that the market booth has been quite successful, with 30 to 50 contacts per week. The last few weeks did taper off in market customers in general, and of course in contacts. This year trainees helped run the booth there.

Policy & Procedures Committee Has now made 16 or 17 drafts of committee overviews, and Pat is now reviewing them.

VRS hours must be submitted on or before October 31st to be included this year.

Nominating committee: The committee, consisting of Nancy, Rita, and Donn have called members and found some interested in running for office. We need a new President, new President-elect, and new blood. Nancy strongly hinted that Alan Wenner could supply the new blood. We have enough members-at-large. To find out what is required for a position and the powers it bestows, read the Manual starting page 94.

Resource Manual: Updating is in progress. Next it goes to Heather, then to Pat, then (hopefully) to new students.

Audit Committee: Linda Coakley will again be on this committee, along with Rita and Nancy.

Other business: Next board meeting will be as usual, on Wednesday, December 13th. For large purchases, YCMGA will open accounts for large purchases (such as potting soil) many of which now are c.o.d. (Most are on account).

Rita motioned to end the meeting, Tom seconded the motion, and *that* meeting ended at precisely 10:00 a.m.

And then, the "FALL PLANNING RETREAT" began.

FALL PLANNING "RETREAT" is a line-by-line review of the budget that was in effect this year and the proposed budget for 2018. Projected spending for this year, actual spending for this year, and proposed budget for next year are studied, and this is when amounts spent may change if necessary. We all became apprehensive when Alan Wenner approached with a way-too-wide smile for us. Even more revealing was that he had a detailed Power Point® demonstration prepared, a sure sign he wanted a *significant* amount of money. And we were correct. Alan began by informing us that there had been a "misunderstanding" last fall when he had promised that was going to be his last request for funds. The misunderstanding was that he hadn't meant it, and the misunderstanding was on our part, not his.

Over 4 years, over 6000 hours have been put into the Community Garden. He, Linda Mason, and Glenda each put in about 500 hours per year. The garden is self-supporting re: ongoing expenses, because of money earned from the plant sale. When Pat asked what their plant sale net is, Alan didn't actually give an answer but did gradually creep perilously close to Pat as he spoke. Smiling all the while... The Garden needs about \$8,000 for added drip irrigation, \$3,000 for 36 raised beds, and \$1,000 for compost for a maximum total of \$12,000 of proposed capital improvements. Annual operating expenses average \$4,000 annually, making a total of \$16,000 needed for 2018. The Garden request is for \$8,000, and the balance will be covered by the Garden. Alan's logic for making the request was quite straightforward: YCMGA has lots of money, and the Community Garden does not. A polite term would be "equalization of assets."

Pat mentioned the possibility of having a capital budget for longer term expenses and for donations. This is now categorized under "programs" as donations. The operating budget is for consumables (used within one year of purchase). Anna promised that her husband would advise us on this when he has time. Then Rita motioned we give the Community Garden \$8,000, Nancy seconded it, everyone okayed it, and Alan will get his money!

Education/Outreach Committee: A survey regarding the future of "Lunch & Learn" will be going out to all members now and again at graduation. There is a possibility the committee might want to reach the public to gain viable attendance numbers. Also, see page 1.

Plant Data Base: According to Ruth, information in the database will include at least common name, method of attainment (used for inventories), and name in Latin (except for vegetables). An inventory of live plants will be in March, dead ones not at all. A planning list will be constructed, and the USDA master list will be used as the primary reference. Tom suggested the information have a user interface so that all MG's can view it, but only the committees have the power to edit. It would be "Read only" on the website.

Plant Sale: Susanne said a meeting has already taken place. Jeff won't be able to do box collection nonstop as he did last year, so Tom promised to help him. However, the storage building on the fairgrounds is no longer available for free, and space in a storage bay that would be free is virtually inaccessible by humans (even young ones). A new location is needed in McMinnville. Donn suggested we might have to pay for storage in the original building, or buy cardboard trays that are already broken down (and then assemble them prior to the sale). The sale will be the first weekend in May. Right now, there are about 10 customer-use carts available, plus 4 from the Community Garden. Emblazon owner's name on each! Spry help is needed to take carts to and from vehicles during the sale: 4H students are a possibility.

Calendar: New sign-up calendar has not yet come to life, so right now is used only for scheduling use of the old auditorium.

All meetings concluded at 2:03 p.m.