

Meeting called to order by Pat Fritz at 5:05 p.m. on above date. In attendance:

Carol Parks

Rita Canales

Donn Callaham

Ruth Estrada

Cathy Burdett

Nancy Woodworth

Linda Coakley

Pat Fritz

Glenda Hulett-Wenner

Tonia Beebe

Tom Canales

Alan Wenner

Linda Mason

Anna Ashby

Seamus Ramirez

Board members in **BOLD**

(Seamus Ramirez, Upcoming President of Oregon Master Gardeners, was also in attendance).

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

Treasurer's report: Carol Parks faithfully sent out all the financial statements about a week ago. YCMGA ended October with \$45,000 in the account, before accounting for the \$8000 to the Community Garden and \$2000 for FFA scholarships. Linda moved that this be accepted, Tom seconded the motion, and the members of the board all agreed.

President-elect report: Rita has distributed the surveys concerning the future of "Lunch & Learn," and made more available today. She also announced the presence of a sign-up sheet for Education/outreach committee. Jobs that the committee would like to fill are: people to run clinics and McMinnville and Newberg Farmers' Markets; personnel for various workshops; publicity chair; signage for the Demonstration Garden. For this year's "Spring into Gardening" help is needed for the raffle, and an organizer of the non-profits.

The Heather report: No report as Heather was frantically preparing for the graduation and awards ceremony that night.

Education/outreach committee: See "President-elect report" above. Unfortunately, only one of the surveys for "Lunch & Learn" was returned, making it an approximately .35% (that's 35 100ths of one percent) success rate. No one signed up to help the group, so the sign-up sheet will be displayed and promoted at the upcoming winter classes.

Community Garden: Linda Mason reported that 13,918 pounds of food have now been donated to YCAP this year, in spite of a late start due to the abnormally wet spring. Even in November, though, the garden donated 2126 pounds of produce.

OMGA representatives: Our guest Seamus (pronounced "Shay' mus") Ramirez stayed for the evening. He is the future President of the OMGA, effective January 1, 2018. The organization's quarterly meeting will be November 4th, and the "Retreat" in December. All master gardeners are invited to attend this two-day event. If you cannot make it to the meeting, Seamus encouraged everyone to send any ideas relating to Master Gardeners to him via email. Mini-college has been named "Growing Gardeners" to make it more appealing to a broader audience. This has been shortened to "G2" to make it sound imposing and modern. It will take place July 12th, 13th, and 14th, and a fourth day is possible.

Publicity & Web: According to Tom, nothing new is happening in his department. He has renewed the OMGA website. Seamus questioned the advertising efforts to attract more people to the

organization. On the website for the public there is ample information on the classes and how to become a Master Gardener, and the classes are being advertised through the Extension Office.

Seed-to-Supper: Tonia told us that the classes in Newberg just ended, and there were 15 graduates. All graduates received either a raised bed or a container for gardening. Oddly, need now is for instructors in *English*. This spring classes will commence at the Tice Apartments in McMinnville in the Sue Buel attendance area.

Spring into Gardening: There will be a meeting of the committee on December 12th, 1:00 p.m., at Rita's (and Tom's too) house. All of the speakers for the event have been signed up.

Propagation: There is a lot happening here. Ruth said that a day ago they received donated seeds, and Lady's Mantle plants plus bulbs for the sale. The table of native plants will be full. Early in February the crew will go to Newberg High greenhouse for planting and inventory. As before, Rita has taken on the responsibility of making all the plant labels. The vandalism at the fairgrounds (see December *Grapevine* for details) has all been repaired. According to the fairground staff, there is no doubt that it was deer who did the damage: they parked in the paved parking area, climbed through or over the fence, dumped plants out of their pots, and tore up some established plants. They even were careful to leave no footprints in all the soft earth. (Sounds like a Gary Larson cartoon, doesn't it? Board members *seriously* doubt this, but are glad that we do not have such malicious deer in McMinnville. Since the pavilion is a public space, it cannot be closed off completely, so the rampaging "deer" could return. However, this is the first time in anyone's memory that there has been intentional damage to a Master Gardener project, and Rosemary said she will donate a trail camera to be installed in the pavilion. Members were divided as to whether or not it would be beneficial to have a warning sign re: the camera.

Plant Sale Committee: The committee will have their second meeting of the year on December 13th at 9:00 a.m. at the old public auditorium. Marilyn and Pat spent half a day in the attic of the Extension Office recently, looking for anything to do with the sale. Fortune smiled upon them, as they found a stuffed mole and stuffed gopher, and it was strongly suggested they (the rodents, not Pat and Marilyn) be put on permanent display. They also could be the basis for a great poster for SIG. Leaders want to somehow expand the available space inside the building (same location, though). Gary, the new manager of the fairgrounds, has offered the use of Cruikshank Building for storage of boxes. It is an open building, but only about 1/3 of it would be needed and the boxes would be protected from weather (but not ill-intentioned deer).

Greenhouse Committee: They have met, and are ordering seed to start their planting.

Mentoring: Terry reported that all of the needed mentors have been procured, some extras are in the wings, and classes for the mentors will be held. All the classes have been arranged and the location secured.

Policy & Procedures Committee now has all the Committee guidelines and job details for the Board of Directors staff. All the material will be divided into 3 sections: Job details, Financial Policies, and Procedures. There will be a notebook with material for every Committee, on the website and in the Extension Office. (In all probability, a pretty intimidating binder). The Board of Directors will have to approve the final procedures, which will mostly involve financial requirements.

Trainee Recruitment: There are now 6 people signed up for the 2018 classes. Typically, classes consist of about 20 to 25 people, and most of them sign up at the last possible moment.

Voting for 2018 Board Members: This took place at 6:00 p.m. (same night) and had to be completed before people could eat. There were no nominations from the floor. The ballot included a space for write-ins, and were deposited in a flashy patriotic-looking ballot box crafted by Nancy. Fifteen minutes were allowed for the voting, and then two members who were not running for office, and not related to anyone running for office, and presumably upright citizens counted the ballots. (See photo in December *Grapevine* as proof). Most of the present officers won by a landslide, since no one else wanted their positions. Susanne and Tom will be the members-at-large, Nancy Woodworth will be the new OMGA representative, and Tonia Beebe the back-up representative.

Resource Manual is now close to finished. It needs to be checked by Heather and then President Pat. It'll be online and on paper.

Other business: Next board meeting will be on December 13th, the usual day. (No one had a problem with the proximity to Christmas).

Linda Coakley moved to end the meeting, and Tom seconded the motion, ending the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Donn Callaham, OMGA Secretary

November 15, 2017