

## YCMGA Board Meeting Minutes

December 13th, 2017

**Pat the President called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. on above date. In attendance:**

Cathy Burdett	Linda Mason	<b>Rita Canales</b>
<b>Nancy Woodworth</b>	Tonia Beebe	<b>Donn</b>
<b>Callaham</b>	<b>Linda Coakley</b>	<b>Tom Canales</b>
Heather Stoven	Jade Wilson	Ruth Estrada
Marilyn MacGregor	Susanne Beukema	<b>Pat Fritz</b>
Polly Blum	Charlotte Earl	

**Certificates:** Certificates which had been issued by OMGA but were not available on awards night were presented to Sylvia and Linda C. for YCMGA "Behind the Scenes."

**4H conference:** Since YCMGA had financed participation in the national 4H conference for several local students, one of the students gave a report on the event. She and the other representatives enjoyed the event, and apparently gained much confidence and expertise.

**November Secretary's minutes:** Linda M. brought up a needed change: the pounds of produce donated to YCAP were transposed. Correct numbers are 13,819 pounds for the year, 121# for October. Tom motioned that minutes be accepted with that change, and they were.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Carol was not present, but we were asked to consider changing the scholarship donations from \$1000 per student to perhaps 1.5 to 2K per student.

**The Heather Report:** Class sign-ups are doing pretty well, with 14 people signed up plus 2 who will do it online. We have new chairs in the auditorium!! By chance, the uncomfortable chairs were listed as the most important aspect of change needed for MG classes. No more battles over who gets an upholstered chair... (Kelli is the person who did the research and purchased the chairs, so she is the one to appreciate). There will be an effort to make our MG classes more interactive, though that may be difficult to make happen this year. The coordinator for the Central Oregon MG associations is working on a database to organize desk clinic solutions. It will be a collection of vetted answers

to questions received at the Extension Office, categorized under type of question. A searchable collection of usable answers is planned, which will be tested this year and implemented next year. Also, Gene and Sue received the OSU Extension Association "cooperation award." (See details in January edition of the *Grapevine*). Jade has produced a new YCMGA brochure, a copy of which will also be in the January edition of the *Grapevine*. **And there is more!**

All trainees this year will have a link to the trainee manual, but not a hard copy. Every mentor will have a paper copy, however. Eileen is in charge of the revision of updating that manual, but the status of that is not known. The new signup program (described in November notes) is now on trial for the desk office only (not other venues yet). A link will be sent to everyone. To prevent irresponsible people from signing up and then a few days later changing their minds, there is only a 30-minute window for changes, after which an undependable member will have to talk with Jade *personally*.

**Announcements & Correspondence:** A submission for the Karl Karlson award was made in the name of Seed-to-Supper. Two "thank-you" cards from 4H ambassadors were received from non-Yamhill-county 4H members. (The YCMGA donation for this project goes into a state-wide fund, which distributes the money among multiple county 4H students).

In addition to receiving *seven tons* of donated fresh food from the YCMGA Community Garden, YCAP also requested a money donation from YCMGA; members agreed that the food was enough.

**Education & Outreach:** No results were turned in from the survey re: events, so the committee has decided to no longer hold social/educational events for Master Gardeners. Once a year may happen.

**OMGA representatives:** The current rep (Linda C.) did not attend the statewide meeting, but the two new reps did, and had a lot to report. Both Nancy and Tonia attended the OMGA retreat at Hopkins Forest, focusing on OMGA improvements for 2018. They came up with the following:

1. The most prominent *STRENGTHS* are the ability to get speakers from OSU; the OMGA can be active in areas prohibited to OSU; it is one of the few statewide MG associations.
2. *WEAKNESSES* are that a better system is needed for new officers; it does not lobby for Master Gardeners; there is no diversity in membership; the only income is from membership dues and proceeds from the silent auctions at "mini-college." There is the *OPPORTUNITY* to have a "road show" at trainee time in each chapter.
3. *THREATS* consist of no uniformity of knowledge, expectations, or behavior among extension agents; poor lines of communication (resulting in different membership fees in different counties); dues are the primary income; chapter operation is 100% up to agents' discretion, for better or worse.
4. *PURPOSE* of the OMGA is unclear to Master Gardeners. OMGA did provide funds for PNW handbooks for all the chapters, and paid for the insect collection.
5. *OBLIGATIONS* of the OMGA website are to bring horticultural information to the public; supplement the OSU master gardener program; supply forms for avoiding paying taxes (does not apply to individuals); supply general funds; revise office handbooks; plan tours; plan and execute Mini-College (for which OMGA would like 2 volunteers from our chapter).

OMGA needs to analyze sources of income and what services it provides to chapters and a vision statement is needed. Nancy and Tonia mentioned that with Sue as president of OMGA it will become more focused and active. Nancy promised to work arduously to determine and share the *raison d'être* of OMGA.

**Publicity:** Tom told us that publicity is being completed for "Spring into Gardening."

**Seed-to-Supper** is essentially in "Park" for the season.

**Spring into Gardening:** All speakers have been procured. A raffle coordinator (who will make up baskets, take donations, and sell raffle tickets) is needed. Tonia volunteered to take on this job.

**Plant Sale Committee:** Plants are in the process of being grown. Boxes will be stored at the fairgrounds in a new location, which will be for free again. Box collection still needs a few more volunteers to ease the load on Jeff and Tom.

**Policy & Procedures Committee:** Tara has now completed 8 of the committee responsibility summaries. Pat will become more aggressive with committee heads who have not turned in the needed information.

**Other Business:** At the November meeting the president was told by a member that the president was not allowed to vote, so Pat abstained at the time. Since that sounded nonsensical, Pat did some reading and found that the information was totally incorrect. There is only one condition that prohibits the president from voting, and that is if she is paid a salary. Pat did offer to give up her right to vote in exchange for money, but was ignored.

**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.

***Tom moved to end the meeting, Nancy seconded the motion, and the meeting ended at 11.32 a.m.***