

## YCMGA Board Meeting Minutes

January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**The President called the meeting to order at 10:01:30 a.m. on above date.**

**In attendance:**

Cathy Burdett	Linda Mason	Polly Blum
Rita Canales	Nancy Woodworth	Tonia Beebe
Donn Callaham	Pat Fritz	Linda Coakley
		Tom Canales
Gail Price	Heather Stoven	Ruth Estrada
Alan Wenner	Marilyn MacGregor	Susanne Beukema
Nesbit Sue Nesbitt		Gene

**Introduction of New Officers:** Pat listed the officers who are new to the board this year: President-elect Rita Canales, as OMGA Representative Nancy Woodworth, as OMGA Alternate representative Tonia Beebe, and members-at-large being Tom Canales and Susanne Beukema.

**Secretary's notes for December:** Tom motioned that the minutes be approved, his wife Rita seconded the motion, and the board mumbled the required affirmation.

**Treasurer's Report:** Carol sent all financial reports out (6 pages this time!) several days ago. In applying for either a credit card or accounts for YCMGA, it was found that in all applications some individual has to personally guarantee payment of the account(s) and supply their bank information, social security number, and other personal information. Therefore, all officers decided not to apply for the accounts. Too much personal risk...

**President-elect report:** Rita had nothing to say. After all, as she pointed out, this was the poor woman's first day on this job.

**Heather Report:** Heather wants to start desk clinic sign-ups as soon as possible; she is desperate for help at the desk, at clinics, and at Farmers' Markets. She reminded us that this year everyone is required to volunteer at least 5 hours at clinics. When scheduling any meeting that will use the Master Gardener room at the extension office, people need to let Jade know ahead of time to eliminate double-booking the room. Jade will maintain a schedule. Eventually all sign-ups (including use of the MG room) will be online on the new online platform.

**Announcements & Correspondence:** The mentor committee has scheduled every board member to make a short presentation re: their duties to the new students. However, none of us were informed of this responsibility. Every board member needs to be prepared to do this on January 25th, the fourth day of class.

**Education/Outreach Committee:** The committee will meet with Heather on Friday, Jan. 26th, at 10:00 a.m. in the grim old auditori-

um.

**Community Garden:** The "go fund me" campaign sponsored by a seed company collected \$2,429. 88 more tomato cages are being built with 1800 pounds of rebar donated by Cascade Steel. The garden is being geared up for the 2018 season.

**OMGA representatives:** Both representatives will be attending the next meeting of the OMGA, which will be March 5<sup>th</sup> in Marion County. Sue (the new OMGA president), will be doing a fairly regular column for the Grapevine answering questions about the organization. We are seeking a catchy title for her column, and will pressure her to submit it every month.

**Publicity:** Tom has been updating the YCMGA website re: members. The current list is seriously outdated, and he is ejecting anyone who is not either a certified MG or have paid their dues (financially). Non-certified people are welcome to join, as long as they pay the dues. Of course, lifetime members will be retained until death. Tom again reminded people of the obvious: *if you want something on the website, you have to say so!* SIG registration is now online, being tested only by MG's at this time. People should sign up for the classes they would like to have, but there is no promise they will get every class they want.

**Seed-to-Supper** is progressing very well. There will be five classes this spring, including two in McMinnville and two in Newberg (one English and one Spanish). Gene is meeting with Sheridan representatives to possibly arrange classes there. Habitat for Humanity did not work out as a sponsor, but Tice Apartments is sponsoring the Spanish class in McMinnville, and Virginia Garcia Clinic is doing the same for Newberg. Two English-speaking instructors are needed, one each for Newberg and Sheridan.

**Focus** of the whole program is changing. It used to be a challenge to find students once the program was set up. Now, Gene gets an agency *that has a built-in clientele* to sponsor a class, eliminating the need to scrounge up attendees. A staff member of Virginia Garcia took the class last year, plus the Clinic is sending 2 employees to training this year. That publicizes the program, and often the former students want to teach a future class.

**Spring into Gardening:** This is fully planned now. However, volunteers are needed for all positions, so a sign-up book was successfully passed around during the meeting. People who have signed up for a class can be either a host or door guard for the class. This year all sign-ups will be on paper only. Nancy and Tonia will be sending an email to all members, to collect items for the raffle and auction.

**Plant Sale Committee:** The date of the Plant Sale has been moved to May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> because of difficulties with the fairgrounds. In

fact, most of the committee's interactions this year have been difficulties caused by fairground decisions. The fair will now be charging \$125 per outside booth (plus booth insurance), plus a monthly rent on the Wiser Pavilion. We have been informed that the usual plant sale date of 4/28 will never again be available. Any improvements made to fairgrounds and structures there now belong to the fairgrounds. However, this year YCMGA will need to consider and plan for a new permanent location for the plant sale, demo. garden, greenhouse, and all storage. We are hoping the Heritage Center may be the place, as it would be excellent.

**Perennial Propagation:** The plants are growing, inventory is this week, and Robert's plant list is growing and adding many categories. Edible plants will be picked up this month, coming in a box "the size of a small coffin." Not an inspiring description.

**Mentoring Committee:** The new YCMGA class has 23 students, plus 2 taking it online. Feedback has been very positive on this new group: a number of "youngsters" (anyone under 55) and even some men, plus some very enthusiastic individuals. Note the problem described under "Announcements." Also, committee heads are scheduled to give presentations re: their responsibilities, but also were not told of this. Committee chairs should contact Marilyn to set these up.

**Scholarship Committee:** Sue is now sending out information to school counselors, and to Tom for inclusion on the website. Here is the Procedure for determining amount of each scholarship: there is an allotted amount, which is divided among all the qualified students who apply, up to \$1000 each. This year there will probably be no extra funds because of the possibility of moving from the fairgrounds, but Sue was very accepting of that.

**Resource Manual** was not completed on time this year. What has been done was given to students, missing large sections. Cathy has

volunteered to finish it, but she has been seriously overworked.

**Field Trips:** Polly has a list of ideas from Ruth, and has arranged for Anna to give an instructional winter tour of the gardens at the Alison.

**New Business:** Pat floated the idea of having a new procedure to encourage rotation of people in committees. She posited that the chairs would have a 3-year term limit, when the position would be open to any qualified Master Gardener. (The board would decide on selection of chairs). Then a passionate "discussion" commenced re: co-chairs and committee members and qualifications and possible mentoring of new chairs and possible promotion from within committees and infinite other details. Though the board seemed to initially strongly support the idea, finally Pat had to end the discussion with her repeated statement of "WE'LL TABLE IT!!"

**At that point** Susanne motioned that the meeting be terminated, Tonia seconded it, and we broke up at 11:52 a.m.



Donn Callaham, OMGA Secretary

January 10th, 2018



## Propagation Committee wants YOU!

Greetings everyone! Our weekly meetings in February & March will be on Tuesdays starting at 9am, and generally running until noon. Please come for any or all these work parties! Last year, after the plant sale, our meetings generally included a 1/2 hour educational component. Many of these will be repeated this year but new topics are welcome at any time. I'll work with Heather to make sure the topics meet educational criteria.

For all work parties, for your comfort, please dress comfortably, bring clipper, garden gloves, and a kitchen fork you don't mind dedicating to garden work!

