

YCMGA Board Meeting Minutes

January 09th 2019

**The President called the meeting to order
at 10:06 am, on 1/09/19**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Linda Mason	Alan Wenner	Sue Nesbitt
Donn Callaham	Pat Fritz	Ruth Estrada
Terry Hart	Nancy Woodworth	Gail Price
Susanne Beukema	Polly Blum	Carol Parks
Marilyn MacGregor	Tom Canales	Rita Canales
	Linda Coakley	Becky Karver

Secretary's notes for December: Susanne motioned approval, Becky seconded, all voted in favor. Actually, the secretary himself made the original motion, but was emphatically informed that he is not allowed to do so. Carol asked for a change to the November minutes: the wording "president-in-waiting" needs to be changed to "president-elect" for financial purposes. Carol motioned, Susanne seconded, everyone agreed.

Treasurer's Report: Carol received flak for sending out all the financial reports under an email alias. However, turns out her email is now listed under some stranger's name, but is actually coming from her computer. She is doggedly trying to correct this. All financial reports were sent out, and we have \$41,000 in savings. Audit was changed to Saturday, 1/19, at 10am, same location. However, the audit won't be finalized until February (instead of January), and Carol will send the required report to OMGA.

Heather Report: Classes have started, and some applicants were turned away (and put on a waiting list). Because there are 27 trainees, the auditorium is crowded and any MG's attending classes are asked to tell Jade before actually showing up.

Announcements: Polly is on the Fairgrounds panel which picks the "Fair & Rodeo Ambassadors" (high school students). This year all 3 applicants were accepted because of the excellent histories of all 3. The students get uniform clothing, a scholarship, rodeo tickets, and attend local fairs and rodeos as—you guessed it—ambassadors! One wrote an extraordinarily articulate and well-thought-out thank you letter.

BOD Decision: There was a question about Article 4, section B of the bylaws. To hold office or vote in YCMGA, it

appeared that a member has to be certified, and one extraordinarily active member was not. However, it turned out that the requirement was that the person be "in good standing" but that does not necessarily mean certified. Therefore, the incipient problem was solved. Another problem, also then solved, was that the new President had received no key to the organization mailbox. The old president promised to deliver it.

Awards committee: Nancy Woodworth has completed all the wall plaque updating, ordering, installation, and formatting. After Nancy had completed all that work, the President casually mentioned that she suddenly realized it was a job that she was supposed to have done when she was President-Elect. Excellent timing on her part.

Education/outreach Committee: This group will have its first meeting in February, when events will be planned.

McMinnville Community Garden: All's quiet on the garden front, but in February planning and planting will begin. Because of the continuous drought, there is deep concern about the water supply for the garden (now on a well). Since the garden is outside the city limits, Water & Light does not run water there. There is the hope that the W & L Board will make an exception to that at their next meeting. If that doesn't work there are some possible actions, all of which are now being researched. The choices are: 1) have the existing well rebuilt or renovated 2) Have a new well drilled 3) Keep a large water tank, filled on a regular basis, on the premises. The current well has been dropping in output for a year, so the garden is switching to crops that need less water. The decision on what to do about the supply will depend on the results of the W & L Board decision, and then on the results of research.

OMGA Reps.: OMGA has been organizing and preparing for "Mini-College" for a year now. To help minimize requirements for volunteers, they even decided to hire a professional to do registration and event coordination, but from all the chapters no one could be found to be in charge of the event. Therefore, Mini-College has been cancelled for 2019, and hopefully will reappear, reorganized, in 2020. There are only two sources of funding

for OMGA: the auction at Mini-college and membership fees. The problem with that is now obvious.

Web/Publicity: Again there was a discussion re: having the website made by an outside person, in the popular format “Wordpress.” [Details of that discussion are found in the YCMGA notes for December]. Tom asked for a budget for the new website, so Tonia Beebe motioned for that addition, Donn Callaham seconded, and all voted “yes.” Tom Canales will now get a firm estimate from web-builder Amanda Greene, but the new site will not be operative until after “Spring Into Gardening.” Kathleen Brown of YCMGA will now be working regularly with Tom on the new website.

Seed to Supper: Marilyn MacGregor is now co-coordinator of the program (along with Gene Nesbitt). Both of them are doggedly determined to create a committee to run the program, rather than having just one person doing nearly all the work. Classes are now being planned, with 4 or 5 of them this spring. Instructors have been obtained. An emphasis is being placed on having community partners become much more active: though Newberg is strong and active, Sheridan is questionable, and McMinnville is not organized well.

Mentoring Committee: Rosemary and Gail Stolz are in charge of the “volunteer fairs” but neither was at the meeting to provide details. There should be 2 fairs: one on January 24th for tasks yielding direct hours, and one on January 31st for those providing indirect hours and support hours. There is still a lot of confusion re: displays, and how the fairs will function. Emails were sent to some members, but not all who should be involved. Jade is helping people figure out the procedure, how to set up displays, etc.

Perennial Propagation: Plants from the Newberg High School greenhouse will be arriving in mid-February, and bare-rooted plants will also be arriving from the nursery about February 16th. Next week label-making begins for all the plants that will be at the sale.

Resource Manual: The manual is now complete, compre-

hensive, condensed from prior years, and online. Students will be referred to the online version, rather than providing each of them a paper copy.

Scholarship Committee: Two applications for scholarships for Master Gardener classes from two of the 2019 trainees were submitted, and both accepted. The committee is in the process of contacting every public high school and some private high schools in Yamhill County, to make them aware of the opportunity. For those who received scholarships last year, the students are being reminded to turn in their grade reports, as they get the scholarship money *only* after they have completed at least one semester of the relevant studies.

Spring into Gardening Event: All speakers are now reserved. Sponsors are the same as last year, totaling about \$3500. in cash and in-kind items. Becky is a co-chair, and she now has the alcohol license. Major sponsors are those who have donated \$500 or more, Donors of \$200. are Patrons, and the remaining are those donating less than \$200. We will be going with the offer from Wilco, in which they will donate \$300. and we will display their banner at the event. That donation will be in \$100. gift cards, two of which will be used for SIG costs, and one of which is destined for a different (as yet unpicked) committee.

Spring into Gardening Raffle: The raffle is fully organized. Baskets of items are being assembled, and Master Gardeners are strongly encouraged to make and bring in theme baskets. They do *not* have to be garden-themed; books, kids’ items, food and drink, the beach- - almost any theme can be used. There will now be two levels of tickets: \$5.00 tickets for the “big” items, and \$1.00 for all others. The cutoff values for “big” versus “normal” have not yet been decided. No one should feel shy about donating things for the raffle.

Plant Sale Committee: Publicity will be out by the end of January. Pricing has been finalized (remember the prices have all been raised, per December Secretary’s notes). Volunteers are still needed for MG plant holding area, customer holding area, and “customer service representa-

tives.” The last will be like personal shoppers, following along behind a customer and carrying plants. All positions are being listed in a sign-up book, not on the website. It is one of the jobs of the mentors to sell the idea of helping at the plant sale to all the trainees. Per Gail Stolz, the plant sale will have a special recruiting session with the captive trainees.

Unfinished Business: Carol will sign the application for the liability insurance for the Board of Directors (though she doesn’t actually know where to go to sign it). Rita motioned to increase the budget for insurance this year to \$1210. total to pay for all the insurance; Tonia seconded the motion; the board voted for it.

Plastics Debate: The hope is to eventually phase out the use of all plastic dishware at MG events. This is to emphasize our preoccupation with sustainability. There was a rousing and lengthy discussion of which plastic products might be recyclable, and many theories were presented. (After the meeting, Nancy Woodworth went personally to Ecology to get a list of acceptable and non-acceptable plastics, since the News-Register had 2 articles stating that *some* plastic was being recycled. Inter-

estingly, the people responsible for the program at Recology had never heard of it, had no literature, and wanted to see the newspaper articles to learn about the program! So much for going to the source...). Suggestions were made for people to bring their own cups or to use the ones in the auditorium, and hand-washing plastic plates was deemed not safe. (We unofficially agreed that we should not sicken or kill people- - either ourselves or the public- - in our zeal to limit waste). Rita promised to keep “harping” on this subject, and we know she will.

Fairground Demo Garden Reorganization: We were scheduled to discuss this, but those plastic plates took up all our time, and this will be addressed next month.

Susanne motioned to end the meeting.

Gail Price seconded the motion.

Rita terminated it at 12:05pm.