

YCMGA Board Meeting Minutes

July 10, 2019

**The President called the meeting to order
at 10:00 PRECISELY on 7/10/2019**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Linda Coakley	Gail Price	Carol Parks
Tonia Beebe	Pat Fritz	Virginia Galt
Marilyn MacGregor	Susanne Beukema	Polly Blum
Nancy Woodworth	Terry Hart	Sue Nesbitt
Gene Nesbitt	Alan Wenner	Glenda Hulitt-Wenner

Secretary's notes for April: Carol read aloud the changes she had submitted for the notes, as the Secretary had not sent out a final copy of the notes. (He thought no one really cared, but Carol proved him wrong). Those changes had been made to the notes, so Tonia motioned to accept the notes, Carol seconded, and there didn't seem to need for a vote for approval.

Treasurer's Report: Reports have already been emailed out, and Carol informed us that the issue with the IRS (see June 2019 Secretary's notes) has not been solved, as was originally thought. By chance an MG found, when trying to guide a contribution to the YCMGA, that the IRS still lists YCMGA as being "under investigation." As mentioned last month, the IRS was sent a copy of the papers for OMGA, which we were told would include YCMGA. The OMGA staff had informed us that this letter would be all the information needed by IRS. In actuality every corporation must individually apply. Yamhill and Marion counties are the only incorporated Master Gardener Associations, so are not included under OMGA. So YCMGA must now apply to the IRS as an independent corporation: Carol has emailed the OMGA treasurer on this topic and is still trying to figure out whether we need to apply for tax-exempt status separately from OMGA. Got all that?

Heather Report: Interviews for an office assistant to replace Jade were held July 9th in the hope that a new person will begin working in early August. For now, sign-ups and other tedious tasks are to be done through Kelli or Vickie. Graduation is usually at the Heritage Center, but other venues are now being considered because of rising costs for renting the Heritage Center facilities. For 2019 at the Heritage Center we would be required to rent an additional room to operate crockpots, costing \$75 for half a day, \$150 for a full day. (Warming kitchen is \$100). Renting tables and chairs is an additional expense. Also, reasonably enough, we will check into alternate venues. More specifically, Polly and Sue will be doing research.

Newberg and McMinnville Community Centers and the McMinnville Senior Center were offered as possible alternatives. Plans are still to (hopefully) have the graduation on Wednesday, November 13th.

Announcements/Correspondence: A card of thanks (for the scholarship) was received from high school student Stephen Irving, and read aloud.

Education/Outreach Committee: Farm tour and award announcements will be on August third. OMGA awards are due by the deadline of July 19th, so results are expected by the beginning of August. Hospitality group is meeting to plan for the 8-03 event. The lei-making class will be on July 20th, and the flower arranging class at the Community Garden will be on July 27th. There will be clinics on both days of Harvest Fest at the Heritage Center. (Of course, *if you read the Grapevine* you would already know all this...) We have not decided yet whether or not to participate in the Newberg Lavender Festival next year. Nancy asked members to "spy" on the Festival this year and give their opinions on the viability of entering it next year. To date, impressions have not been favorable. (Low attendance, inconvenient booth location, no need for us there because of all the lavender experts already there).

Community Garden: So far this year the Community Garden has donated 3000 pounds of produce to YCAP, and expects to end the year having donated over 4000 pounds. On June 16th the Children's Garden opened, and next class will be on June 27th (see above).

OMGA Reps: Next OMGA meeting will be September 6th and 7th in Albany. Although there is no Mini-college this year, the OMGA still needs (and wants) money, so is planning to have a silent auction of sorts. So every chapter is expected to contribute at least 3 items worth \$25 each (or more, of course) to the auction. These will be photographed, estimated value attached, and put online where Master Gardeners may bid on the items. Donations can be anything desirable, and need not be garden-related. However, it is asked that no baskets be donated—apparently the auction was "basketed out" last year. Garden art is encouraged though. Auction items historically sell for about 60% of list price. There are two very strong detrimental factors to how this auction will proceed: one is that only Master Gardeners will be aware of it and bidding. Worse is that online there will be no indication of how much other bidders are offering, thus eliminating the possibility of people competing for an item and up-

ping their offers near the end of the auction bidding time. Donated items are due by September 20th. OMGA is still discussing the feasibility of Mini-college, and a questionnaire has been sent to presidents of each Master Gardener chapter. The presidents are to distribute this to all their chapter members. The questions ask for opinions on the structure of classes, what would make the Mini-college overwhelmingly compelling to attend, should more money be invested to hire a professional event planner, and choices of venue (including whether or not members would accept a casino as the setting). For questions re: the auction contact Sue Nesbitt.

Hospitality: Polly is concerned because she is already over budget, and she has no guidelines as to what events require her services, and what is expected at each event. (For instance, whether or not to provide more than just hot beverages). Right now Hospitality is about \$150 over budget, and may have 3 more events to cover. Also, Polly has been given too-short notice on some events. Susanne promises to work with the Propagation Committee to determine what refreshments are needed and when, and Sue will help.

Perennial Propagation: Inventory and purchasing are completed, but cuttings are needed. There is a photo of all the people at a recent meeting: the photo will be labelled with names, then each person's interests will be listed. Major flattery is required, sincere or not.

Propagation Committee problems: Gail brought up the problem of the propagation classes (for other Master Gardener chapters) cutting severely into time doing actual work at Propagation, as the classes have been on Tuesdays. Right now each individual county is coming to a propagation class for just for that one chapter, and it was generally decided that there should instead be one class, once per year, to which all chapters are invited. To date Patti and Ruth have been giving the lectures and leading the classes, but both of them are not going to be doing that after this year. The question is, *Who will take over??* The Propagation Committee chairs are deeply frustrated because no one has volunteered to head the "departments": there was not even one reply to the detailed and encouraging ad for help in the last *Grapevine*. The board of directors is being asked to help, and 1:1 contact is a must. The problem is that there are plenty of people working manual labor, but no one willing to supervise the various departments. People are reminded that they do not need to be there every week. At present the committee has

only 25% of the plant material needed for the sale, and members agreed that if we have even one lousy plant sale, future sales will be dead-on-arrival. To summarize: the structure and human worker bees are there, but the supervisory volunteers are not.

Web, Mentoring Committee, and SIG are all on hold for the summer.

Hospitality Budget Discussion: Expenses for the Budget Meeting and Graduation are already covered. Donn motioned and Gail seconded a motion to add \$500 to the hospitality budget; division and assignment of costs to various functions will be decided at the September Budget Meeting. Perhaps having class attendees pay \$5 or \$10 per class will help.

Fall Planning Meeting: (deceptively referred to as a "retreat.") This will take place on October 26th, beginning at 9am at our usual hangout, the Public works auditorium. It will be potluck as usual.

Seed-to-Supper: 27 people took the spring courses, though they were needed in English only. Restructuring should be complete in 2 or 3 weeks, with 15 people signed up as instructors. Willamette Valley Medical Center is giving \$5000 for the program.

