

Rita Canales called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

<u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u>		
Gail Price	Carol Parks	Susanne Beukema
Polly Blum	Nancy Woodworth	Sue Nesbitt
Cathy Burdett	Gene Nesbitt	Donn Callaham
Rita Canales	Heather Stoven	Gail Stolz
Terry Hart	Lorraine Housechild	Gin Galt
Marilyn MacGregor	Pat Fritz	Joan McKibben-Williams

Secretary's notes for September: Carol motioned approval of the minutes, and Susanne seconded the motion. All approved.

Treasurer's Report: Reports have already been emailed to board members. Expenses listed are predictions only. There is now due a \$500 deposit for the reservation of the buildings at the fairgrounds, for the plant sale. **Financial Policy Change: Language re: reimbursements to Master Gardeners is being changed.** This has never been a significant problem, but to facilitate bookkeeping, reimbursement requests will now require a receipt, and a filled-out form. Form to be used is from other MG chapters, and the form will be on the YCMGA website: multiple receipts may be submitted on one form. When YCMGA is billed for a delivery by a supplier, the MG receiving the delivery is to notify Carol, who will match paperwork. Committees can decide the details. Susanne motioned for a vote for these changes, Donn seconded. Everyone on the board agreed. In a small change, reimbursements for Mini-College attendance will now require an actual receipt; that is, just a nametag from the event will no longer be accepted as proof of tuition payment.

Heather Report: 11 applications have been received for the 2020 class. Many of the 2019 trainees are getting close to earning the hours needed to become certified. Some are not.

Correspondence: Rita lamented that she never gets mail.

Awards Committee: Report from Nancy. The committee has selected 3 people for "One of a Kind" awards, 1 for "Golden Trowel", and Kramer's for "Supportive Business." Awards will soon be made, and awarded at the Graduation Banquet. New this year will be several awards:

1. A certificate for Kristiana's son Josh, for his help both at SIG and at the Plant Sale.

2. Certificates for the 4H kids who helped us at the Plant Sale. Mike Knutz will supply the information re: each kid, and we will create the certificates. Certificates will be presented at the Graduation, to which each of the students has been invited. By the way, last year the 4H kids were awed and humbled by the abundant selection of food at the Plant Sale. Also at Graduation will be:

1. Longevity certificates and swinger bars for Dianne Lockwood, Evelyn LaMotte, and Beth Durr.

2. Awards to Carol Parks for "Master Gardener of the Year", Glenda Hulett-Wenner for "Behind-the-Scenes," and to Michael O'Loughlin.

3. Acknowledgement of the "Educator Grant" given to YCMGA of \$450, for a new video projector.

OMGA Representatives: To the leadership forum November 1st and 2nd neither Nancy nor Tonia can go, due to injuries from which both are slowly recovering. Tom and Polly have volunteered to go in their stead. Everyone was reminded to be aware of the auction to be held at the same meeting. To date, no one from our chapter has made any bid on any item. For 2020, Tonia will take the job as OMGA Representative, and a number of people want to run for the position of Alternate Representative.

Education/Outreach Committee is on hiatus.

Community Garden: 13,000 pounds of produce have been donated so far this year, with more to come. Volunteers donated over \$2600. worth of their time. New useful inventions were specialized dibble tools to save enormous amounts of time in planting and thinning, and harvest crates for gardeners to use. 90 beds are reserved for YCAP production, and support is now being offered by Mid-Valley Advancement and the Department of Mental Health of Yamhill County. Production per bed is now averaging 300 pounds per year.

Mentoring Committee: Preparations are almost complete for the 2020 classes starting in January. The first mentor training will be on November 19th.

Spring into Gardening: The committee proposed raising the fees slightly for 2020. Master Gardener admission will go from \$20 to \$25; non-MG fee will go from \$25 to \$30, and students will be \$15. If the student helped at various events, then their admission would be free. These prices are still well below those of similar events, and still include lunch. The committee will

make the final decision re: this change, but the members generally appeared to agree that the change was very reasonable.

New Business: In a purely perfunctory but required motion, the board decided to keep the monthly meetings on Wednesdays at 10am.

Someone mentioned that they could not find the meeting minutes on the YCMGA website, and Tom admitted to being behind on that. The Secretary promised to supply all his notes for the last 4 years, and he promptly did that. A decision was made to no longer have the minutes published in the *Grapevine* as it is for the public and the notes are not relevant to the public. Instead, the complete notes will be published monthly on the YCMGA website as soon as they have been *informally* approved by the mem-

bers of the board. We also decided to have a brief bullet-ed summary of the notes *of the latest meeting* in each issue of the *Grapevine*. This will eliminate the former 2-month lag between holding a meeting and the notes being published. That lag often made the notes more about irrelevant history than current events.

Meeting adjourned by Rita at 10:18 am.

YCMGA & Planning Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2019

Seed-to-Supper Program: The Seed-to-Supper program at YCMGA is no longer. This is because the former sponsor—the Oregon Food Bank—changed its policies. It now emphasizes groups other than general food-needy people, and thus does not align with our goals for the program. Since it is a copyrighted program with copywritten materials, YCMGA is planning to form an entirely new program. However, we will now be partnering with YCAP, which is very enthusiastic and proactive re: starting a program with us. Gene and Marilyn will now head a steering committee to form a new program, focusing as before on nutrition education and gardening, and adding food preservation. (Preservation will focus on handling and storage of food, but not canning, which can be a laborious process). A grant has been applied for from Y.C.Cares, through YCAP, to fund raised beds for clients. Raised beds are worth providing: 90% of former clients still use them, 86% saved at least \$18. per week on food bills, and clients averaged an additional 13 servings of vegetables per week if they had the raised beds at home. The classes will retain focused on the S-to-S group, with a multi-class series in both English and Spanish, if possible.

This winter the committee will form curriculum, and will find out whether or not we received the grant by November first. The grant, if granted, would be on a reimbursement-only basis, rather than outright grant. It would cover the cost of materials for building raised beds, gardening tools for clients, seeds, and plant starts. The desired outcome of the program is: 90% of clients feel competent

in raising their own food, 80% eat more vegetables more frequently, and 80% use their raised beds. Planning is for up to 4 classes this spring.

Willamette Valley Medical Center is donating \$2500 to be used for printing of new manuals, YCAP will be doing some of the paperwork, and YCMGA will be working with Willamette Valley Medical Center to provide healthy food to people who need it and cannot afford it. Preservation of the food is a priority, so that the patrons have shelf-ready food all year. Also, volunteers from YCAP and WVMC may be available to help build the beds, though there is also a good supply of Master Gardeners available, and about 50% of the beds are built by the patrons themselves.

Rose Garden Renovation. Sue has proposed a complete renovation of the rose garden at the Fairgrounds, for several reasons:

1. All the bushes are old and overgrown, hence inaccessible (and would not survive transplanting).
2. Mold is a problem due to overcrowding.
3. None of the roses are now labeled.
4. Not all categories of roses are represented.

The proposal is to have the 2 mature trees removed by the fairground personnel, remove all the present roses completely, and extend the garden up to the near edge of the Wiser Pavilion. There would also be a *non*-handicapped-accessible path down the center of the garden (parallel to the sidewalk), and 20 new roses planted. Every plant would have its own identification sign and

there would be 3 commercially-produced general information signs. Also included would be 3 trellis' for climbing roses, and representatives of every common type of rose (tea, floribunda, climbing, etc.) To keep it all alive, a new drip irrigation system would be installed. The pur-

pose of the renovation is to increase educational value, make the garden more attractive and easier to maintain, and hopefully to attract the public more than it does now.

Planning Meeting Discussions

October 26, 2019

Plant Sale changes: The "Customer Service Representative" idea was very successful, and will be continued. The 4H students who were "plant wranglers" were also helpful, and this year they will be recognized at the Awards Banquet with certificates of appreciation (which can be an asset for them in their 4H "life-books.") There will be one holding area for both ordinary people and Master Gardeners, to avoid misunderstandings and irritation on the part of the citizenry. This year gift certificates will be available for purchase, prices will rise somewhat (see notes from September 2019), and the sale will not enlarge for now. Possibly, Third Street Books might have a booth at the Plant Sale this year.

MG carryall bags: High quality cloth shopping bags with the MG logo can be ordered, and will be if the demand merits. The idea was floated of giving them to all the trainees as a bonus. How to give this was questioned: at the beginning, in the middle of training, or at the end? Problem is, some trainees drop out after a few sessions, and a large percentage do not graduate. This was left open for discussion.

Safety: Master Gardeners are requested to park across Lafayette Avenue for classes, for lack of parking next to the Extension Office. But crossing Lafayette is very hazardous, particularly for slow old people, and there is no crosswalk. Having ODOT install a crosswalk is akin to having artificial flowers at an MG event, so alternatives were discussed both formally and informally. Formally, no conclusions were reached. Informally, Tom and Donn came up with several interesting alternatives:

- 1) At night, Donn & Tom could use highway striping paint to paint a crosswalk for Master Gardeners.
- 2) Also at night, they could use striping tape to make the crosswalk, laying it down between passing vehicles.
- 3) Place traffic cones at the crossing area: 2 on one side of the street, 2 on the other side, and 2 on the centerline. This would direct driver attention to the walkers and hopefully slow down traffic.
- 4) A suggestion was made to have a bucket of sand on each side of the road. In the bucket would be fluorescent flags on 3-foot sticks. To cross the road, someone would grab a flag and hold it up to get driver attention. After crossing, the flag would be replaced in the bucket on the opposite side of the street.
- 5) In addition to the cones, have 2 large street signs made stating "Gardeners Crossing" and temporarily place them on each side of the avenue. All devices (except painted or taped) would be installed and removed for MG classes only.

Donn and Tom will work on this, and present to the Board of Directors at the November meeting.

Herbarium idea: Herbarium personnel have offered to create a fundraiser for Spring into Gardening and for the Plant Sale. They would mount preserved flattened plants in a large frame, with glass, and with the plant identified in calligraphy. These would be sold as wall décor. The committee will make a few and see how they sell at Spring into Gardening before making more.

Budget Changes for 2020

October 26, 2019

All line items *not* mentioned in this summary remain the same as in 2019.

LINE ITEM	2019 EXPENSE	ORIGINAL BUDGET	UPDATED 2020 BUDGET
1) Database Website	\$1,500	\$1,700	\$400
2) Demo. Garden	\$29.88	\$200	\$3,000 (roses)
3) Farmers' Market McMinnville	\$0	\$400	\$50
4) Sunshine Committee	\$0	0	\$250
5) Plant sale authorization fee	\$458.31	\$460	\$500
6) Plant sale kitchen	\$27.57	\$200	\$0
7) Plant sale Office supplies	\$146.58	\$100	\$200
8) Plant sale pot labels	\$172.73	\$400	\$500
9) Plant sale publicity	\$471.60	\$1200	\$800
10) Plant sale purchased perennials	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
11) Total plant sale	\$9857.21	\$11,940	\$15,550
12) Community Garden	\$3,060	\$5,250	\$0
13) Educational Outreach	\$52.08	\$1,500	\$500
14) Herbarium	\$0	\$50	\$400
15) Mentoring	\$0	\$200	\$250
16) Seed-to-Supper	\$1,355.10	\$4,750	Pending \$3,000
17) Total Programs	\$4,467.18	\$11,850	\$4,250