

YCMGA Board Meeting

January 08, 2020

IN ATTENDANCE:

<i>Carol Parks</i>	<i>Susanne Beukema</i>	<i>Polly Blum</i>
<i>Gene Nesbitt</i>	<i>Linda Mason</i>	<i>Amy Curtis</i>
<i>Donn Callahan</i>	<i>Pat Fritz</i>	<i>Terry Hart</i>
<i>Gin Galt</i>	<i>Heather Stoven</i>	<i>Susan Burdell</i>
<i>Marilyn McGregor</i>	<i>Tom Canales</i>	<i>Ruth Estrada</i>
<i>Linda Coakley</i>	<i>Rita Canales</i>	

Susanne Beukema called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

Secretary's minutes for December: Donn motioned approval of the minutes, Gin seconded the motion, all approved.

Treasurer's Report: Reports have already been emailed to board members. At the end of the year YCMGA had approximately \$54,000. Once again everyone was reminded of the policy changes for reimbursement requiring completion of a reimbursement form for all reimbursements. Copies are available online and on paper in the office (and have been for several months).

Heather Report: Since space will be severely limited at the MG classes this year, it is paramount that any certified Master Gardeners who are not mentors sign up for classes they wish to attend. People admitted will be on a first-signed-up, first allowed basis. Signup for the day will be as usual on a clipboard at the front of the auditorium. There is a waiting list of Master Gardeners wishing to attend, so it is asked that any MG's who have changed their minds re: attending a class, **LET CARLA KNOW WELL AHEAD OF TIME**, so someone else may attend.

Correspondence: As departing President, Rita was asked by staff at Newby Elementary School if Master Gardeners would produce Mother's Day gift plants for all the students each year (which would be 550+ plants). The school personnel are looking for a cheap or free source of plants. We enthusiastically and compassionately declined.

Awards/Memorial Committee: Nancy and Polly will meet on January 10th to determine the parameters and requirements for people to be memorialized with plaques. The plaques listing hours and awards (that are hung in the Extension Office hall) are now being completed, with 2 new ones having been made by a close relative of the committee chair.

Education/Outreach meets Jan. 13. Plans are to have a clinic in Willamina on February 29th, from 10am to 1pm. This event is known as "Seedy Saturday." YCMGA will also have a table at the Yamhill County Soil and Water Conservation District native plant sale, occurring in early March. We will be present both sale days (Friday and Saturday). Booth hours will be 8:30am to 6:00pm, including setup and deconstruction. We had better have at least 2 shifts for this one!

Community Garden: It is a time of rest right now. Spinach and lettuce have been planted, and 25 pounds of radishes were harvested.

OMGA: YCMGA will be hosting the OMGA quarterly meeting next September. It could be potluck, though OMGA always provides \$300 for food purchases, and the hosts supply beverages and dessert. It goes without saying that Polly will take care of all food planning and needs. Friday of the event will be "Education and Outreach" and Saturday the actual board meeting. All Master Gardeners are invited to attend, just out of curiosity, though there will probably be room for only about 15 guests. (That cramped auditorium again).

We need to decide whether or not YCMGA will have either a display or a sales booth at Mini-college. If so, OMGA wants notification by March. The YCMGA board will vote on that issue at our February meeting.

Mentoring Committee is totally on top of everything. There is also a waiting list of five or more people who want to take the classes.

Garden-to-Table: YCMGA has received the grant from Yamhill Community Care Organization (YCCO), and all that is needed now are some more bilingual instructors.

Perennial Propagation is simply maintaining its existence, living in apprehension of upcoming frigid weather.

Annual Propagation will meet February 11th.

Plant Sale Committee has been focused on the presentation for the January 30th job fair, and is ready. A tightly-controlled presale for Master

Gardeners who are working the initial shift is being cautiously planned. Possibly the presale would be before the actual sale opens. The most important aspect of this is being sure that the public does not perceive this special time as an unfair advantage for Master Gardeners (over the public). Further plans for this presale will be coming.

The issue of plants donated by Master Gardeners was discussed, and is being worked on by the committee. Suggestions were made to have all these plants labeled with YCMGA official plant tags, not with homemade labels. This would also mean that donors would have to have their inventories and all relevant information turned in at the very least 14 days before the sale.

Demo Garden participants are congratulating themselves on their timing re: removing the rose garden. With the current rain, it would have been a horrendous mess - not fun at all.

Policies and Procedures: This group will determine the best day to meet in February.

Resource Manual: The Resource Manual is as complete as it can be, given the fact that, after one year of reminders, several committee chairs have not yet turned in their material for the manual. Missing are job descriptions for Newberg Farmers' Market, herbarium, and Garden-to-Table (which is still in formative stages).

The "Desk Captain" position was also discussed, because there are no captains listed. Carla is the person who prepares and distributes the schedule for working the MG desk, and even notifies back-up people if an operator is missing. *Susan Burdell has tentatively volunteered to be Desk Captain, if we do have one.*

Liability insurance has become a constant and critical issue for YCMGA. OMGA is considering covering insurance for all the chapters at all events, but this is tentative only, and is probably far in the future, or never. Though Master Gardeners is an OSU program and OSU responsibility, the school has no interest in helping chapters procure insurance. There is no indication that OSU will be supportive re: insurance in the future. The Fairgrounds and City of Dayton now require specific liability coverage for our participation in the events. That means that every event must be listed with the insurer well ahead of the event taking place.

Our current insurer won't do this, so Susanne will compare insurers to find one with whom we can do all our business.

Crosswalk Safety: Having MGs and trainees crossing Lafayette Avenue for classes is hazardous. Therefore a committee got permission from the city to have us use the Wortman Park parking lot during January, February, and March when we arrive for classes. The city of McMinnville lent us traffic cones and signs to use to make a temporary crosswalk. One of the three committee members will be responsible for placement and removal of the signs and cones each Thursday. We will even have special prizes for those who make it safely across Lafayette on the way to class. (On the way back, your reward is simply to get home unscathed).

New Business: A new or totally changed greenhouse was discussed, as the current one is small, too tall to heat, and has no heat anyway. People seemed to *unofficially* agree that YCMGA should allot about \$30,000 to this project. There are numerous possibilities.

- Convert the current greenhouse to propane heat.
- Install a dedicated electric meter (for the greenhouse) and soil-heating pads under beds.
- Cease use of the Newberg High greenhouse, which is distant and also wholly dependent on just 2 hard-working YCMGA volunteers.
- Build a smaller "room" in the current greenhouse to make heating more feasible.
- Construct a completely new greenhouse.
- Change the location of the greenhouse to a roomier spot (but still on the fairgrounds).
- Form a special committee to consider all possibilities and suggestions.

(We cannot make use of the Wiser Pavilion space, as the fair board intends to turn that into a destination for minimalist econo-weddings some day!!!!)

For now, members are asked to consider all types of options, and come up with ideas for improvement.

At 11:21 Linda motioned that the meeting end, Polly seconded the motion, and that's what happened.
