

YCMGA Board Meeting**March 11, 2020****IN ATTENDANCE:**

Carol Parks	Susanne Beukema	Polly Blum
Linda Mason	Amy Curtis	Donn Callaham
Pat Fritz	Cat Bowditch	Heather Stoven
Susan Burdell	Marilyn McGregor	Tom Canales
Sue Nesbitt	Linda Coakley	Rita Canales
Nancy Woodworth	Gin Galt	Ruth Estrada
Rekha Loomba	Marlena Bertram	Cynthia Norcross
Becky Karver		

Susanne Beukema called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.

Secretary's minutes for February: Carol motioned to approve minutes, Gin seconded, and all agreed. Susanne noted that in order to receive copies of each meetings notes, members *have to sign in*. They have to make an effort to find and sign the sheet if it is not handed to them.

Treasurer's Report: Financial reports were sent out prior to the meeting. YCMGA has approximately \$54,000 at the end of February. Expenses for memorials for past Master Gardeners originally were under the auspices of the Awards Committee. Members felt that this was a misnomer ~ the kind of award few people want to "win." So it was transferred to the "Sunshine" committee, albeit a still somewhat macabre designation. The plaques themselves will still be under the supervision of "Awards".

Heather report: As is well-known now, all remaining MG classes have been cancelled because of the current profusely-publicized virus scare. Heather pointed out that plenty of classes will still be available online, and that information about all the classes is in every issue of the *Grapevine*.

Announcement: Marlena Bertram has volunteered to be the representative for the 2020 Master Gardener class, and was eagerly accepted.

Education/Outreach: At this point in the virus scare, only the Daffodil Festival had been cancelled. (Later in the day, all other activities were also terminated). All clinics are cancelled or on hold until the public behavior and schedules are normalized.

Community Garden: 47 planting beds have been reserved, plus 2 more for Yamhill County Mental Health and Human Resources (for horticultural therapy). A Linfield student on a community service assignment is being mentored by Linda.

OMGA: Representatives attended the quarterly meeting and heard that Gail Langellotto will receive .6FTE hours for an assistant. Surprisingly, the new plant protocols have been pronounced as an *option* for each chapter, as previously they had been presented as a mandate. However, we already follow the proper procedures, so no changes are needed.

The OMGA board needs some new members, and there will still be an auction, though online only. Ten items to be auctioned are needed from YCMGA members.

Web/Publicity: The project now is cancellation of SIG, including refunds. The group decided on the policies for refunds for both Master Gardeners, and for donors. See details in next paragraph.

Spring into Gardening: Because of a fear of possibly being responsible for any decision which might have adverse effects, the SIG chairs decided to cancel SIG. The board voted (Donn, Polly, and Susanne against, the rest for) on the cancellation: it was approved. (This was before the statewide shutdown later the same day, which made this action irrelevant).

Refunds: Master Gardeners will have the option of a refund, or donating the fee to YCMGA. All others will be notified by email, if possible, and given refunds. Sponsors will have the option of a refund, allowing the donation to be for any event, or having the donation held until further notice. There may be an online raffle in spite of the shutdown, though that requires a great deal of work to set up. The Education/Outreach committee's Speaker Committee will contact speakers, to possibly set up webinars of their presentations. Gin will contact people for refunds; Carol will refund checks and PayPal accounts.

Garden-to-Table has instructors and locations for English classes in McMinnville and Newberg but Sherwood has been cancelled until fall (due to lack of clients). To date there are no Spanish-speaking clients, which this committee feels is an area that needs increased outreach.

Perennial Propagation Committee had completed nearly all their purchases prior to the statewide closure of events. They also procured an excellent buy on 1-gallon blueberries.

Demo Garden: The rose garden construction is on schedule. The meandering path will be placed within the week, and Donn will rent and use the equipment to compact the slag. Tom is building the trellis for one end of the garden, plants have been chosen, and the actual plants are now being procured. As of now there is no further organization for the rest of the demonstration gardens. Pending the fairground staff decision on garden will be temporary. Significant work is needed on the bed along the wooden fence and the plantings in the Wiser Pavilion.

(At this point the meeting was interrupted for a bulletin from Tom re: the current situation on the incipient virus and its effect on public meetings).

Greenhouse Planning Committee: The committee has discussed needs and choices, and Tom has drawn up a site plan. A decision has not yet been made regarding refurbishing the greenhouse, versus replacing it. City codes will be a major hurdle. Besides separate permits being required for every aspect of the work (including a sign and tentative demolition of parts of the greenhouse) approval consumes six to twelve months. Emphasis will be on improvements to the floor, soil storage, and shelving.

Insect Committee. The former leader of the committee has left Master Gardeners. Gin and Terry have volunteered to head the committee.

Safety Committee has done its job of ensuring safe pedestrian crossings of Lafayette Avenue before and after every 2020 Master Gardener class. The committee is now dissolved for this year.

Display for Mini-college: (See details of display requirements in February notes). For now the decisions re: a display are on hold, depending on the eventual fate of Mini-College.

New business: (Repeat business, actually). Carol brought up the "issue" of secretary's notes in the *Grapevine*. Because this has been discussed, decided, then changed over the past year, here is a review of the decisions, including the most recent one.

- All of **2016** into 2017: Notes not in Grapevine
- March, **2017**: Notes published in full
- Notes published in full until **May 2019**
- **October 2019** meeting: A member decided the notes should not be published any more
- Notes not published starting November, 2019
- **December 2019** meeting: A member felt we *should* have the notes published in abbreviated form as soon as they have been **informally** approved by the members of the board. The general membership agreed to this proposal.
- **December, 2020**: Notes published in abbreviated form.
- **January & February 2020**: Notes published
- **March 2020 meeting**: Another member decided notes could not be accepted if approved by the board, but upon which the board had not voted. She felt they must be *formally* approved by board as a whole to be printed. Again, the general membership agreed to this new proposal.
- **Editor decided** that doing so would produce same problem brought up and solved in December 2019 meeting. With the reversal of the previously-established policy, Secretary's notes in the *Grapevine* would be of unusable staleness. Therefore notes (as of now) will no longer be published in the *Grapevine*.

*Linda C. motioned to end the meeting,
Carol seconded: concluded at 11:37 am.*
