

YCMGA Board Meeting**January 13, 2021****IN VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE:**

Carol Parks	Susanne Beukema	Polly Blum
Donn Callaham	Heather Stoven	Marilyn McGregor
Gin Galt	Pat Fritz	Linda Mason
Sue Nesbitt	Rita Canales	Amy Curtis
Nancy Woodworth	Linda Coakley	Gene Nesbitt
Tom Canales	Rita Canales	Gail Stoltz
Kelly Moser	Marilyn McGregor	

Susanne Beukema called the meeting to order at 9:05 am. This meeting was teleconferenced because of the continuing requirements regarding the coronavirus.

Secretary's minutes for December: Rita motioned acceptance; Polly seconded.

Treasurer's Report: The reports have been emailed to board members, as usual. Amy will be changing the budget format to an online format. A member questioned the payment for fair ambassadors for 2020: for 2020 there were ambassadors, but no fair. There will be no ambassadors for 2021.

Heather report: Yamhill County is still in the highest-risk category for COVID. Therefore no MG's are allowed to work anywhere related to OSU. Even if people are vaccinated these conditions will not be changed. The horticultural seminars have begun, and the first one had 300 attendees! Skill classes begin 1-22.

Announcements: New officers for 2021 are:
 Susanne Beukema—President
 Rita Canales—Vice President/President Elect
 Amy Curtis—Treasurer
 Donn Callaham—Secretary
 Kelly Moser and Tonia Beebe—Members-at-Large
 Polly Blum—OMGA Representative
 Tom Canales—Alternate OMGA Rep.

YCMGA Signatory revisions for First Federal Bank

Yamhill County Master Gardeners is requesting signatory changes on all accounts at First Federal Bank (accounts ending in 8781,9025, and 0272).

Signers on the accounts will be:
 Susanne Beukema, President

Rita Canales, Vice President

Amy Curtis, Treasurer

Amy Curtis is appointed to replace Carol Parks as the Senior Administrator for business online banking; Rita Canales and Susanne Beukema will remain as employee users.

Education/Outreach: The second survey re: what MG's want to learn has been sent to committee chairs, in the hope that they will solicit committee members from the list. There have been few replies, perhaps because of the wealth of information in the survey. It will now be condensed to cover only the skills which people want to teach (rather than learn). The Zoom chats are continuing Friday mornings at 10am. Gene brought up his theme of wanting members to do more activities for more involvement, emphasizing retention of members. He suggested we form skills groups (i.e., classes) taught by Master Gardeners.

We have a large supply of seed packets which we would like to get out to the public. Perhaps we could have a Facebook activity re: planting specific plants, with us supplying the seeds. We could also give them away at the plant sale, though that would be less involvement for the public.

McMinnville Community Garden is closed for now. Seeds have proven hard to obtain during the pandemic, so they have been ordered already.

OMGA: The new roster of all Oregon Master Gardeners is now available. Lincoln City chapter floated the idea of not giving MGA "Master Gardener of the Year" and OMGA "Behind the Scenes" awards this year. After a brief discussion we all agreed that, yes, people are still earning those awards, and they should (and shall) still be given.

Web/Publicity: Tom is seeking ideas for additions to our website. A Zoom license was discussed: OSU has a Zoom account for MG use for meetings, but we may decide to upgrade Zoom for several months, to use for Spring Into Gardening. There is no Zoom non-profit license, and we are using the least expensive option now available. We could purchase Zoom for 500 to 750 people for 2 months (for SIG). We would have to get a Zoom Meeting Pro account for 3 months, but it would allow only 100 participants. Tom will determine current costs and options, to

be discussed at another meeting.

Spring into Gardening: Since only 100 people can participate in the Zoom function we will use, local registrations will be given first priority. One speaker has declined to participate, so we need a replacement; there are 2 possibilities. There will be no raffle this year.

Garden to Table has had its first class, consisting of 12 students and 11 mentors. It went comparatively smoothly.

Annual Propagation Since we have an abundance of donated seeds, not much will be bought this year. The crew is waiting to find out when the plant sale will be (to decide when to plant) and wondering when they might be able to use the greenhouse again.

Plant Sale Committee: Shopify is being organized (a major undertaking) by Gin and Amy. A demonstration from the customer's perspective will be available soon, and the crew is seeking plant photos to use. People were shocked to hear that Gin actually *enjoys* doing the meticulous and intense work of Shopify!

Demo. Garden: It's wet, it's cold, and the weeds are thriving.

Scholarships: We used to divide the scholarship money equally among all applicants, but that is proving too paltry to be of value. So criteria will become more specific: a minimum 3.0 grade-point average, emphasizing unique pandemic projects, an explanation of why the student is in horticulture, and make it needs-based. We have budgeted \$2,000 for 2021, which would be spent in 2022, paying for 2 scholarships at \$1000 each.

Note to the Board: In October we need to adjust the budget to show \$2000 for scholarships.

Awards & Memorials committee: It has been decided that the only qualification for a memorial plaque for a Master Gardener will be to die. There will be no requirements re: level of participation, hours, etc. If someone has moved away and then deceased, their name will be added if someone notifies our chapter.

The awards will be chosen next month.

Annual Audit: the audit is in progress (by remote, of course). Doing it thusly has made Carol deeply appreciative of a live in-

person audit. The audit will be ready by the end of next week.

Fundraising was again discussed. 15 people expressed interest in fundraising at the plant sale on the recent survey, and 11 expressed interest in handling merchandise on Shopify. Ideas: selling MG merchandise (such as shirts), making wreaths, selling merchandise at the plant sale, and thinking of fundraising ideas which do not involve merchandise. Those could include some kind of garden tour or field trips and charging much more for SIG. A non-profit can carry out one raffle per year without getting a state license, but online raffles are apparently very labor-intensive.

People are asked to check with other MG chapters to see what they are doing now for fundraising. We also agreed to have merchandise only at the plant sale for now, and to not try to initiate other online sales until later in the year. (We need to collect \$15,000 per year in order to break even). Rita volunteered to be on the fund-raising committee, but is not willing to lead it.

At 11:02 am Polly made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and Tonia seconded.

