

ATTENDANCE:

Heather Stoven	Tom Canales	Star Thomson
Marlena Bertram	Linda Coakley	Mary Ann Nolan
Rita Canales	Kelly Moser	Carolyn Nyquist
Gene Nesbitt	Pat Fritz	Donn Callaham
Sue Nesbitt	Amy Curtis	Gail Stoltz
Terry Hart	Linda Mason	Susanne Beukema
Nancy Woodworth		

Using her gavel with enthusiasm, Sue Nesbitt called the meeting to order precisely at 10:00 am.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 2022: Donn motioned for approval, Marlena seconded, all approved. Amy then motioned for approval of special board meeting on November 30 (for approval of concrete floor contract), Donn seconded, all approved.

Treasurer's Report: The invoice for the concrete work came to \$2000 less than the estimate. Our p.o. box will be closed and the mail sent from now on to the MG extension office. Keys must be returned to the post office: one is missing, which will be a \$25. charge.

GREENHOUSE NOTE: Though there is a small puddle after watering in the greenhouse, we decided to ignore it. Tom mentioned that all water and debris should travel towards only the back of the greenhouse. Cleaning can be done with a leaf blower; the side drainage channels must be kept clear of debris.

DECEMBER HEATHER REPORT: Six spots are still available for MG training for 2023, which will be from mid-February through April. YCMGA officers for 2023 will be as follows:

- **President: Sue Nesbitt (re-elected)**
- **President-elect: Tom Canales**
- **Secretary: Donn Callaham**
- **Treasurer: Susanne Beukema**
- **Members-at-large: Star Thomson & Shelly Toombs**
- **OMGA Representative: Nancy**

Woodworth

- **Alternate OMGA rep.: Gail Stoltz**

COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2023 ARE:

- **Community Garden:** Linda Mason
- **Education Gardens:** Sue Nesbitt & Donn Callaham.
- **Mentoring:** Terry Hart & Rosemary Didear
- **Education/Outreach:** Carolyn Nyquist & Maxine Wayda
- **Mac. Farmers' Market:** Tom Canales
- **Plant Sale:** Gin Galt
- **Perennial Propagation:** Deb McKee, Mary Ann Nolan, Linda Sellheim
- **Greenhouse:** Linda Coakley
- **Garden-to-Table:** Gene Nesbitt
- **Hospitality:** Gail Stoltz
- **Insect Committee:** Terry Hart & Joan McKibben
- **OMGA Representatives:** Nancy Woodworth & Gail Stoltz
- **Publicity:** Nancy Woodworth
- **Scholarships:** Sue Nesbitt
- **Social Media & Website:** Tom Canales
- **Spring-into-Gardening:** Rita Canales
- **Sunshine Committee:** Susie Alin
- **Awards Committee:** Nancy Woodworth

Community Garden: 200 pounds of produce have been produced since 11-03-22. Winter vegetables are now growing, and they (the vegetables, not the Master Gardeners) appreciate the cold weather and frost. Garden-to-Table has reserved 3 beds for 2023.

EDUCATION/OUTREACH is changing leaders (see list of chair-people above).

Newberg Farmers' Market: It is up for debate as to who is running it this year—Shelly Toombs or Peter Steadman. That is yet to be determined.

GARDEN-TO-TABLE: At this point there are 34 English-first students and 15 Spanish-first. About 20 more clients are desired; classes will be held in McMinnville, Newberg, and Willamina. Publicity is now the focus of the committee (with more on that later in this document under "Publicity.") More mentors are needed: please see the ad in the January *Grapevine*.

HOSPITALITY desperately wants a co-chair for Gail.

OMGA REPRESENTATIVES: *Gardener's Pen* newsletter will be coming out in January. The "Diversity, Equity, Inclusion" committee has gotten a new warmer, fuzzier name—"Growing and Belonging" committee—in hopes that MG's will be attracted by the new label. By-laws are being updated as follows:

- OMGA treasurer will be bonded, OMGA paying.
- All certified MG's doing intakes must adhere to long-established rules of using research-based information, not personal recipes.
- There were issues with an "Ask an Expert" Master Gardener (name withheld) replying to intakes with home-cooked recipes for insecticides!
- If OMGA were to be dissolved, all expenses and obligations would be paid and anything left would convert to the OSU Foundation.
- Considering raising dues from \$5 per member to between \$7 and \$9 per member in 2023 or 2024.

The recent task force ambassador trainings will:

- Develop a brief document to train other Master Gardeners, a the OMGA board asked for it. We can use this to enlist fellow MGs when we need them to contact legislators and county commissioners.
- Draft a sample advocacy letter to an elected official. We can use this template and customize as needed for legislative and county contacts and compile impact stories on how Master Gardeners affect the communities we serve.

The MG committee led by the OSU vice-president for Advocacy & Engagement is working on material OSU Master Gardeners need for their interaction with the public. The OSU Survey Research Center has been hired to develop the survey, send it to all OSU Master Gardeners and others

involved, and analyze the data that is collected. The cost is approximately \$6700. Results will be incorporated into materials to present to legislators to appeal for funding.

Gail Langellotto has created a new OMGA award (in addition to *MG of the year* and *Behind the Scenes*) named the "Growing and Belonging" award. To date there is no idea as to what the award would require. For recertification, 10 hours of continuing education and 20 hours of volunteer work will be required in 2023. Individual chapters may increase requirements.

In 2023 all MG's will be required to attend an approved DEI (now "Growing and Belonging" class) either online or in person.

FINANCING OF EXTENSION SERVICE: There has been an issue in Multnomah County: the county commissioners have refused to fund the Extension Office. Funding for the program is provided by federal, state, and county entities: if the county will not provide funding, neither will the state. This is partly why there is the effort to convince legislators to fund the program. The Extension budget also includes agriculture and forestry, besides Master Gardeners.

Mini-College is now the "Joy-of-Gardening" event, which will be held at the OSU Alumni Center on July 7th and 8th.

PUBLICITY: Nancy Woodworth is now chair of Publicity. This group has a rather checkered history, in that it originally covered all programs and events, but slowly morphed into publicity for only a few events. Tom strongly suggested that the involvement of the committee should again cover *all* YCMGA events and activities, including Garden-to-Table. The resource manual also needs to be updated for 2023.

Linda Sellheim has volunteered to do graphics, and will be outsourcing all printing. The publicity committee will meet to decide on the scope of its work.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Cost of MG training (for scholarships) is \$155 for the training plus \$35 for the manual. Because more people are applying for the scholarships, the original \$400 needs to be increased. We can pay for more people, give partial scholarships, or have the students pay for the manual (to ensure they are somewhat invested in the program). It was decided that to be inclusive, anyone who wants the scholarship should receive it, so Gail made the motion to up the budget to \$800, Marlena

seconded, all agreed.

AWARDS COMMITTEE reminds all Master Gardeners to check the plaques in the Extension Office hall to be sure that all the information on the plaques is correct.

SOcial MEDIA: Rita and David Gilbey are now in charge of social media publicity.

SPRING-INTO-GARDENING: Spring-into-Gardening is now well-organized and all the speakers procured. Details re: specifics of classes and registration will come out in January. The event will be on March 18th (a Saturday), all day, at the "Church on the Hill". There will be 3 workshops and 7 speakers. Lunch will be \$10. extra.

YCMGA has paid for up to 200 participants, so of course more participants would cost more. There will also be a limit of 22 people for any workshop, and this year every participant will have a nametag listing workshops and lectures for which the person signed up, to lessen the number of people wandering into various classes and overloading them. Sign-up will now be online, and help is needed for that. Gail will also need help with hospitality, and Maxine has volunteered to help Cynthia organize and run the raffle.

NEW BUSINESS: Marlena, Star, Amy and the necessary board officers will do the financial audit the first week of January.

TAKE NOTE! We rent the office copier, and rates have recently increased to \$.10 per side for black-and-white, and \$.25 per side for color. The moral here is to *PRINT ONLY WHAT YOU REALLY NEED, AND NOT IN LARGE QUANTITIES.*

Ending: Marlena motioned to end the meeting, Gail seconded, and the meeting concluded at 11:58 am. The cookies exchange, by the way., was a tremendous success. Many people brought cookies; we could (and did) eat cookies during the meeting, and everyone got to take some different types of cookies home. That was a nice personal touch that made the entire meeting more of an interactive event.

