

**YCMGA Board Meeting****October 08, 2022****ATTENDANCE:**

<b>Donn Callaham</b>	<b>Sue Nesbitt</b>	<i>Heather Stoven</i>
<b>Marlena Bertram</b>	<i>Gin Galt</i>	<i>Linda Coakley</i>
<i>Rita Canales</i>	<i>Gail Stoltz</i>	<i>Terry Hart</i>
<b>Nancy Woodworth</b>	<i>Linda Mason</i>	<i>Susie Alin</i>
<i>Marilyn McGregor</i>	<i>Star Thompson</i>	<i>Mary Ann Nolan</i>
<i>Cynthia Norcross</i>	<i>Debbie Mckee</i>	<i>Glenda Hulett</i>
<i>Alan Wenner</i>	<i>Gene Nesbitt</i>	<i>Suzanne Beukema</i>
<i>Maxine Wayda</i>	<i>Sue Nesbitt</i>	

***Sue Nesbitt called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.***

**SECRETARY'S MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 2022:** Marlena motioned (with one change to G-T projected numbers), Terry seconded.

**TREASURER REPORT:** YCMGA has \$53,512 in savings, with an additional \$10,230 in restricted funds (for fuchsia education, and McMinnville High FFA scholarship money).

**HEATHER REPORT:** Training class registration is now open. The schedule will be similar to that in 2022, being partially in person (labs) and partially zoom. It will be one week longer than in 2022, and classes will be held at various locations, such as the auditorium and the fairgrounds. Enrollment will be cut off at 26 students. **Hour records are now due!**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The *Grapevine* will be removed from the OSU site, and regularly updated on the YCMGA website.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** The problem of finding a potential president has been solved! Sue Nesbitt will be the president for 2023, and during that time Tom Canales will be president-elect. Tom will then be the president the next year. Suzanne Beukema has volunteered to be treasurer, solving that problem (no treasurer) as well. Other officers will be Donn Callaham still as secretary, Nancy Woodworth and Gail Stoltz as OMGA representatives, and Star Thomson and Shelly Toombs as members-at-large.

At this point Sue announced that the floor

was now opened for officer nominations. The ensuing silence was deep and profound. Ballots will be emailed this year (in contrast to live balloting previously held during the final meeting of the year). Graduation will be as planned on 11-06 at 1:00pm, on a Sunday for convenience and no night driving required.

**END OF BUSINESS MEETING**

Terry Hart moved to adjourn the meeting, and Marlena Bertram seconded the motion. End of meeting at 10:26am.

**PLANNING MEETING FOR 2023**

**FARMERS' MARKETS, McMINNVILLE & NEWBERG:** Because of Carla's strong stance against flimsy excuses and irresponsibility on the part of some volunteers, for the first time in memory farmers' markets were well-staffed on a consistent basis. The every-other-week schedule helped make the slots easier to fill, simply because there were less of them. Newberg did particularly well because some of our new members are Newberg residents.

**Plans for 2023:**

A schedule of every other week will be continued at both markets. It will be scheduled more often only if YCMGA members need the desk hours. There is a weekly charge to participate in both markets, which is split evenly between YCMGA and OSU extension, so added sessions must be justified by added signups. In the past, 3 MG's were allowed to be at each market session: it will be changed to a limit of two members. Classes re: setup and tear-down will be held, and a focus on obtaining volunteers for those 2 tasks will be continued.

**OMGA REPRESENTATIVES** will continue to be Nancy Woodworth and Gail Stoltz. The effort of the advocacy task force, is to advocate for adequate financing of Extension Activities. Hopefully this will make the state legislature aware of the need. Though YCMGA originally had 2 reps. to the task force, Marlena is the only one now.

There were 55 respondents to the Mini-college survey, with generally highly favorable ratings in all categories. There was one participant who considered every single aspect of the

event as deplorable, as bad as it can get...

**For 2023** the advocacy task force will be made a permanent part of OMGA, hopefully still led by Sherry Sheng.

**P**ublicity: When Tom Canales becomes the President of YCMGA, he will of necessity need someone to take over publicity. However, he intends to keep the Website and Media responsibilities.

**P**LANT SALE committee decided to an in-person sale as it has such overwhelming ambiance and visual power that it will be a traditional in-person sale this year.

**For 2023** the sale will be in-person, may have a smaller inventory, and will have more buy-in plants. The Wiser Pavilion is supposed to be completely rebuilt (responsibility of the fairgrounds) sometime in the indeterminate future. Whatever happens to Wiser, plans and reservations have now been made for the 2023 plant sale. As of now, the new agreement with the fairgrounds will include:

- \$800 fee for 4 days of building rentals (vs. \$1200 in previous years).
- \$100 for setup Thursday & Friday,
- Table rental price has gone from \$2.00 to \$4.00.
- Set-up will be on Thursday and Friday, with the sale on Saturday and Sunday.
- We will not move the plants back to Wiser Pavilion until after the Sunday sale; hopefully, we will have fewer plants to move at that time.
- Tables & chairs will be put out from another event, and mostly left out at the end of the sale for another event, at no charge by fair-ground staff.

The idea of using QR codes on all the plants was discussed and dismissed as troublesome, expensive, and not really an advantage either for customers or cashiers.

**F**RIENDS OF YCMGA has been highly successful in persuading businesses to sponsor YCMGA educational outreach activities (and only such activities). This means a great deal of advertising exposure for each business at every event. Exposure is now more organized

and consistent, thereby attracting more donors. Representatives from the donor businesses are invited to our events, including recognition and award events.

**E** DUCATION GARDENS are looking well. The fairgrounds will be responsible for rewiring the Wiser Pavilion for the fountain pump we installed. Best guess is that they are doing it for fear of having us make a mess of it. There will be a new 3' by 5' sign for the garden at the entrance to the fairgrounds, and three 9" x 24" signs delineating the gardens themselves. The crew meets at 9:00am every Wednesday, and always welcomes new recruits with plenty of work. Question: Will the hydrangea tree be moved this year? (The companion hydrangea tree was moved several years ago, and is now thriving).

**E** DUCATION OUTREACH: It has been difficult to sponsor clinics at specific businesses. Spring-into-Gardening was thoroughly successful. The specialized classes, of which there were four, were all filled to capacity. There were also four tours in 2022.

**For 2023**, involvement with the resuscitated McMinnville High horticulture program is still being sought. However, there is no set schedule for the high school activities, making scheduling difficult.

Michael and Rita will each lead a class this year, and ideas are sought for special skills that Master Gardeners can share with the whole group. An excellent location (Church on the Hill) has been reserved for SIG for 2023, and is a notable improvement over other venues.

Training will begin for using the "ECCO" (an acronym for something) system for recording intakes. Besides digitalizing all intakes, it will provide search options for completed intakes, accessible to all Master Gardeners. There are some questions: How will incomplete (ongoing) intakes be handled? Will each MG have to have their own personal account? What organizational systems will be available for retrieval of information? No old (pre-2023) intakes will be recorded in the program. The training will be via online webinars this fall.

**G** ARDEN-TO-TABLE: Turn-out was good in the English classes (30 students) but reached only 8 in Spanish. Participation was good as well, as 80% of 2022 students completed the class. Tremendous discounts were

given to the program by several businesses, making the grant money go much farther than originally estimated. A "Search for Excellence" award has been awarded for \$1000. At this time there are 20 Master Gardeners involved in the program, though there is still need for more mentors. *A co-chairperson is also needed.*

**For 2023:** Grants will be written for 60 students this year (versus for 40 in 2022). A First Federal Community Grant was awarded for \$2500. We have sufficient lumber inventory lumber to build 60-70 raised beds next year. The emphasis is on involving more community partners such as the local housing authority. Due to MG efforts, the housing authority wants to promote community gardens in 2023 at the units themselves. However, some of the units have no area for in-ground gardens, so containers would probably have to be used. The goal for 2023 will be to have 45 low-income participants, and 30 others.

**SPRING-INTO-GARDENING** will consist of four workshops held at the Church on the Hill in McMinnville. **For 2023** all the workshops will be held in one day, as has been done in the past. The hope is to have about 150 people attend; three classrooms and one large room have been rented for the event. *Help is needed to operate SIG.*

**MENTORING** positions have been historically very difficult to fill, but this year there is a surplus of MG's volunteering for the task. There is even a waiting list for mentoring positions. The class itself was one of the strongest in years; 18 of the 20 students graduated from the program, and those graduates have been significantly more involved with the MG program than is usually the case.

**INSECT COMMITTEE** is losing Gin Galt as cochair due to her intense involvement with the 2023 plant sale. The number of participants has been increasing weekly, but the lack of a trained entomologist hampers identification. The focus is now heavily on education, so one MG does a presentation on a specific insect at each meeting. The presentations are short, but of course require research for which the speakers

will earn those highly-coveted OSU hours.

**HOSPITALITY:** A suggestion was made to request people display the recipes for dishes which they bring in. It could be particularly interesting if the recipes were those of different nationalities.

**Sunshine/Memorial Committee:** The current committee members are now sending cards of congratulations for accomplishments, in addition to cards for illness and death. Ideas for messages are solicited; the committee will place a description of their goals and activities in the *Grapevine*.

**Scholarships:** Three thousand dollars were allocated to scholarships this year, with only two applications received. The funds were divided equally between the two. The committee would like to increase the number of grants in the future since in nearly all years all of the applicants actually surpass requirements and expectations.

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### **Budget Revision and General Decisions**

The proposal for a "memorial tree" to post the names of deceased YCMGA members had been discussed in the past. This time, however, the idea was nixed due to the increased potential expense and no apparent benefit to the change.

### **Big Greenhouse Decisions!**

The decision was finally made this year to replace the greenhouse floor, primarily because of the liability for the current floor. (Previously we seemed to be unaware of the liability potential, and thus didn't have to make any decisions). The choice was (agreed upon by all present) to have a reinforced concrete floor laid over the existing substrate, contracting with Parker Concrete with a bid of \$15,310 for everything except emptying the greenhouse of fixtures and ground cloth.

At 2:37 pm Linda Coakley made a motion to end the whole meeting, Donn Callaham seconded the motion, and the meeting drew to a close.

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