

ATTENDANCE:

Star Thomson	Carolyn Nyquist	Donn Callaham
Sue Nesbitt	Gail Stoltz	Linda Mason
Mary Ann Nolan	Tom Canales	Terry Hart
Polly Blum	Nancy Woodworth	Susie Alin
Gene Nesbitt	Heather Stoven	Sarah Riley

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

SECRETARY'S MINUTES FOR MAY 2023: Gail motioned for approval, Star seconded, all approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: deposit for the plant sale was made in the amount of \$22,109.19. An off-the-cuff estimate of net from the plant sale is approximately \$13,000.

JUNE HEATHER REPORT: This is the time to sign up for clinic time, and to practice using ECCO. Right now 30 Master Gardeners have opened their own ECCO accounts. Farmers' Markets now are staffed adequately, including setup and take-down. Tom and Carolyn plan to generate hands-on kids activities and will do so at the county fair. Three MG's have now completed all their hour requirements for recertification.

Carla wants photos to put in her Master Gardener calendar for 2024.

PLANT SALE: A plant sale site selection committee consisting of Tom, Susanne, Star, Gin and Jackie will meet on 7-11 to research and then choose a venue for the sale next year. Astonishingly, the fairgrounds now appears to want to have the plant sale at the old venue, so that will be considered. Choice and reservations will be made by September.

One or more chairpersons are required for the plant sale, but when this was brought up at the board meeting, it was deathly quiet. Members all avoided making eye contact with anyone else. Tom moved to have YCMGA pay Linda Coakley's way to Mini-College: Gail seconded.

PERENNIAL PROPAGATION: This group is meeting weekly now. Patti Gregory will be teaching some classes.

EDUCATION GARDENS: Two signs are being constructed, each one explaining the education gardens and crediting Master Gardeners with operating them. They will be installed before the fair. We also plan to replace the rotted railroad ties with

pavers. All the baskets and chevrons have been planted, the violently-growing fennel has been removed, and Glenda weeded out the arum as much as possible. More people to help can always be used.

COMMUNITY GARDEN still is struggling with aberrant weather. Lettuce and kale are growing, and herbs are doing well. 325 pounds of tomato plants were given to YCAP for distribution.

EDUCATION/OUTREACH: Events being planned and scheduled are:

- Tissue culture classes at Bailey Nursery
- In September, an event for the public (which is in need of a presenter).
- Grafting.
- The County Fair and HarvestFest are in August. There will *not* be a plant clinic at the fair, but there will be children's activities.
- In August there will be:
 1. A vegetable garden tour OR
 2. Tomato-tasting event OR
 3. Salsa-making! OR?

Which one it will be shall be a surprise!

We have done 9 clinics this year with the new boxes (which have been very successful). There is a Farmers' Market now in Silverton on the second Saturday of the month, May through August. The organizers would like us to have a booth there.

MENTORING COMMITTEE will have the first meeting for planning next year's class on August second.

GARDEN-TO-TABLE: The 2023 Mac. High school class grew plants for the clients this year. Next year will see two classes: one in the spring specifically for low-income, and one in the fall for anyone. There will be (3) 2-to-3-hour teaching and demonstration classes in person, as dependence on technology (such as zoom) will be curtailed in 2024. Two instructors are needed for each of the six classes in the spring. For the 2023 international conference, Carla and Heather made an explanatory video, and Carla made a promotional poster.

Hospitality: The YCMGA social will be Sunday, June 25, at 1:00 pm at the Weiser pavilion. It will consist of pizza, popsicles, and lively social interaction.

SCHOLARSHIPS: There has been only one application returned, from Sydney Stables. Star motioned to give Sydney \$2000 instead of the

usual \$1000, and Donn seconded. We also decided to give her the money this fall, rather wait until she finished her courses, as is usually done.

I**NSECT COMMITTEE:** The committee is meeting regularly now, but there seem to be less insect intakes than usual this year.

O**MGA REPRESENTATIVES:** Tom and Sue volunteered to attend county commissioner meetings this year, to learn and to give input. The reason this came up is that OMGA learned recently that the board of commissioners in Josephine County have cancelled all funding for extension in their county. Their "reason" was that the 4H group was "too woke." Once the county ceases funding, the other 2 sources of funding withhold funds as well, and the entire program in that county is obliterated. This could very easily happen in Yamhill County.

The entire extension program is struggling for various reasons. As of June 7th, of the 26 Oregon counties, 9 of them have no horticulture agent at all. Very few agents have a horticultural background, and Program Assistants hired to either.

The board agreed to make a \$1000 donation to Gail Langellotto's research program, as a thank you for her participation before she changed career tracks.

Funding from the Oregon Legislature is also in a perilous position. The legislature is concerned mostly with the homeless situation, mental health, and encouraging high tech. investment in Oregon. Though Extension is included in none of these, an Oregon Representative wrote that the 3 top issues brought up by constituents are Guns, Abortion, and Extension! Puts us in a rather select and rabid group...

Oregon State has requested \$200 million to support their programs, and has scaled that down to \$172 million, which is the current level of spending. As of July first all temporary people filling Master Gardener positions will be laid off for at least the next two years, when the state legislature meets again.

"Joy of Gardening" conference: right now only about 50 people are registered, and 120 participants are needed to break even. The "Send a Friend" grant deadline was May 15th, but has been extended to June 30. Silent auction still needs every chapter to donate \$250 worth of items for the auction, or the chapter can donate \$250 in cash. Dues for 2023 will remain at \$7.00; the wonderful "Beaver day of giving" netted \$1000 from OMGA.

S**Ocial MEDIA** is being assisted temporarily by Master Gardener Sarah Riley, who will help Tom update and streamline the site. However, she will be moving out of state soon so another person will eventually be needed.

**Tom motioned to end the meeting,
Star seconded, and the meeting ended at
11:10am!**

