

**Yamhill County Master Gardener Association
General and Executive Board Meetings
September 10, 10 am Meeting Minutes**

Attendees: Mary Lou Polvi, Polly Blum, Dennis Quenneville, Alex Prentice, Linda Coakley, Gail Stolz, Beth LaForce, Sue Nesbitt, Mary Ann Nolan, Candace Van Barten, Carolyn Nyquist, Star Thomson, Susan Burdell, Libby Kupp, Gene Nesbitt, Cindy Kinnaman

Call to order – Susan Burdell

- Approval of May Minutes/Secretary's Report – Libby Kupp
 - Star moved to approve
 - Mary Lou seconded
 - Approved
- Treasurer's Report – Star Thomson
 - >\$75k in bank
 - Net revenue is \$8,858 year to date
 - Prediction is to end the year in the black
 - Received in July:
 - \$100 from OMGA for Joy of Gardening scholarship
 - Spent \$290 for 3 J of G scholarships
 - Received \$500 from First Federal volunteer program
 - Created 2 positions and developed job descriptions for:
 - Membership coordinator – will recruit for this position
 - Assistant treasurer – Cheryl Martin volunteered to fill this post
 - No bank signatory approval
 - These are not board positions
- Announcements
 - Linn County – Tomato Fest 9/27; 10 am – 2 pm
 - Have 50 varieties of tomatoes to taste
 - Annual Planning meeting 10/18 at 9 am; budgets need to be sent to Star by 10/8
 - BoD meeting at 9 am (instead of 10/8)
 - Planning meeting to follow BoD meeting
- Report from Heather Stoven, Master Gardener Coordinator (Star relayed this information)
 - Graduation/awards ceremony venue – proposed for 11/15-16; Sat-Sun
 - We had to plan that the Heritage Center would not be available, but they recently communicated that they are available
 - Presbyterian Church is available on 11/16
 - Star moved that we hold the event on the 16th at the Heritage Center
 - Susan seconded
 - Approved
- Committee Reports
 - Education/Outreach – Carolyn Nyquist
 - Continuing Education events upcoming
 - Dennis Quenneville will give a bonsai presentation sometime in January
 - Joan McKibbin presenting in October on plants for pollinators
 - Growing and Belonging events
 - Celebrating Latino Harvest – 9/27; 1 pm
 - Grand Ronde – Jeremy 10/7
 - Garden to Table – Beth LaForce, Jennifer Scott

- Began 2026 planning process
- Will begin classes in February
- 5 sites (dependent on number of teachers available)
 - McMinnville – English and Spanish
 - Newberg – English and Spanish
 - Sheridan – English
- In progress of gathering data from 2025 participants and recruiting new participants; report to Siletz Tribal Trust is due in October
- Recruiting volunteers to be site leaders (2/site)
- Will be applying for 2026 grants
- Plant Clinics – Susan Burdell
 - Sheridan 9/13
 - Need someone to take supplies down and stay to volunteer
 - Looking forward to 2026, Grand Ronde has a market – could we get volunteers?
- McMinnville Farmer's Market – Tom Canales
 - 6 more markets
- Newberg Farmer's Market – Lydia Cook
 - Finished for the year
- Field trips/Tours – Tom Canales
 - Tour of AI's to see poinsettias – week before Thanksgiving
- Sponsor Outreach Committee – Gene Nesbitt & Terry Hart
 - Time to start sending out requests for 2026
 - Anticipating 3-4 sponsors for 2026 at about the same support level (\$1600) as for 2025
 - Do we want to proceed as we have in the past for the upcoming year?
 - More in-kind donations (easier for businesses that may be cash-strapped)? Most of our sponsors are in-kind donors
 - Star suggested talking about how to go forward at the planning meeting
- Spring into Gardening – Sue, Libby
 - First SIG planning meeting W 9/17 at 1 pm
 - Have contacted potential committee chairs/members, please contact us if interested in helping out!
 - Date: 3/28 at Linfield
- Plant Sale – Dennis Quenneville and Gail Stolz
 - Will meet with Gin to get background info and get started planning
 - Dennis and Gail should be coordinators, not doers – rely on committee chairs and members
- Perennial Propagation – Mary Ann Nolan & Linda Sellheim
 - Status quo – potting and up-potting as usual
- Greenhouse – Linda Coakley/Sue Nesbitt
 - Will sanitize greenhouse soon in preparation for propagation moving plants in for the winter
 - Will meet this month RE seeding
- OMGA Representatives -Cindy Kinnaman and Lydia Cook
 - Director Leslie Madsen will hire an assistant for 2 y, priority will be updating online courses
 - OMGA must re-format online Garden Future course (it's in the wrong format)

- Seed to Supper materials have been updated and are being reviewed; will be available at the beginning of 2026
- 5 working groups under the state director
- Joy of Gardening 2026; 7/10-11
- OSU introducing a new volunteer hub – will be used to sign release forms annually, but we will continue to use VRS for reporting hours
- Silent auction at Joy of Gardening brought in \$5500
- State treasurer brought up idea of sharing QuickBooks subscription costs – making it standard for the state
- State reps may begin meeting in-person 1-2 times per year; include travel reimbursement in county budgets – will vote on in-person meetings at November meeting
- Dues will be \$5 again next year
- Library – Ken Bunn
 - None
- Awards –
 - None
- Hospitality – Gail
 - None
- Sunshine Committee – Susie Alin, Sandy Beaver, Polly Blum
 - Nancy home and doing really well
 - Polly took frozen meals to Nancy
 - She is walking; tires easily
 - Susie Alin had two surgeries and is doing really well (she came to propagation yesterday)
 - Undergoing radiation
 - Joan Lusk had ankle surgery
 - Rekha had triple bypass then broke her hip – is swimming for rehab
 - Lauren (trainee) broke her foot
 - Jennifer Scott has finally been able to take off her boot – her ankle is healing
 - Karen – former YCMGA member; now in Texas; is fighting stomach cancer, but is doing well
- Education Gardens – Donn Callaham & Rita Canales
 - Winding down
 - Next year will focus on plants for pollinators
 - OMGA is asking for photos of county demo gardens
- Community Garden – Alex
 - Project to move greenhouse bench to under canopy and build 2 new benches for the greenhouse
 - Using diluted landscape vinegar (1 part 30% vinegar to 2 parts water), with salt and Dawn dish soap on pathways to suppress weeds – is working well
 - Changed locks, with same combination
 - Continuing to replace raised bed boards
 - Increasing size of blueberry cage
 - Soil testing planned for October – pH and nitrogen in YCAP beds
 - 9/13 – garden cleanup planned
 - 9/11 last produce table for year

- Potluck on 9/20 at noon
- Delivered 818 pounds of produce to YCAP so far this year
- Looking for someone to take over as Administrative Chair beginning 11/1
- Mentoring Committee – Terry Hart & Rosemary Didear
 - Gail reporting for committee
 - Starting to get organized for 2026
- Insect Committee – Terry Hart & Joan McKibben-Williams
 - None
- Scholarship – Sue Nesbitt
 - None
- Website/Social Media/Publicity – David Gilbey
 - Danny McCullins has agreed to work on this
 - Haven't been able to get in contact with Dave Gilbey – is he still interested; does he need help?
 - Dave Gilbey will continue to work on Garden to Table
 - Kinzee/NIMBL will work on SIG
 - Star also knows a trainee that has a marketing background
 - Gene suggests giving Kinzee specific tasks for updating the website (replace/remove photos, etc.)
 - Keep publicity for each event (SIG, Plant Sale and Garden to Table) within those groups, but centralized committee for general things (Facebook, web site, etc.). Will discuss at planning meeting
- Fairground BOD meeting report – Sue Nesbitt, Mary Ann Nolan
 - Last meeting was a fair wrap-up
 - Attendance – 31,603 (includes volunteers, staff and attendees); down from 34,000+ in 2024
 - 300 4-H members participated with over >2000 exhibits
 - PKA has reorganized and Tom will work with the new leadership to get gate open for plant sale
 - They have not cashed check from this year
 - We will ask Tom to see if they plan to cash check
- Other Committees
 - Nominating committee has met
 - Have list for 2026 positions
 - Looking for President-Elect
- Unfinished Business - none
- New Business - none
- Libby moved to close meeting; Dennis seconded

Next meeting: October 18, 9:00 am