



Master Gardener Foundation of Thurston County

Board Meeting Minutes, July 19, 2017

Present: Board Members Cindy Hoover, President, Charley Barron, President-elect, Kerry Norem, Treasurer, Pam Roberts, Secretary. Also present: Cori Carlton, Program Coordinator.

New Business

Minutes of the June 14, 2017 meeting were reviewed and edited to add language that the State Representative is a 2-year term. Motion was made by Charley and seconded by Kerry and carried to approve the minutes as amended.

Treasurer's report:

Kerry presented the monthly report as of June 30, 2017.

YTD Income:	\$26,430.62
YTD Expenses:	\$13,836.06
Current Assets:	\$31,532.91

Kerry pointed out that the net assets are \$6532.91 ahead of last year. Investments are up: \$3083.34.

Activities that effected Net Income for June included insurance payment, retail purchases of \$1123.85 and Plant sale bills.

Water bill is down, but Dirt Works is changing to every day watering, so the bill will be rising.

Event Brite sent check for \$20. Don't know what is for. Paula Finch tour? Check with Karla Salp regarding the A & E program.

State Representative Report:

Van Bobbit Scholarship

- Submitted our applicants package to the State Scholarship chair on 5/30/17.
- Cindy and I volunteered to be part of the Scholarship committee and we were accepted by the State President.
- The Committee voted to award the Scholarship to our candidate Alex Chapel.
- Alex was notified by a letter dated 6-16-2017 from the State President.

State Board Meeting 6/2/2017

- 12 nominations have been submitted for Master Gardener of the Year

- Board accepted a bid from Chelan County to host a State Education Conference in 2018. It will be held at the Wenatchee Convention Center.
- The board is considering different ways of handling the State Education Conferences (e.g. using college campuses during the summer, appointing volunteers to be responsible for planning a conference and others to obtain speakers)
- The board has contributed to approx. \$17,000 toward an endowment managed by WSU. The plan is to contribute \$5,000 per year to this fund. The goal is to have a source of \$\$\$ to fund the State Education Conferences.

Need 5 raffle items for the 2017 Conference

Alex has been notified re: his selection as the VanBobbitt scholarship recipient. Cindy will arrange representative attendance at State Conference banquet. We need to coordinate the attendance if Alex wants to attend.

Vice President report:

Bev had submitted an updated Board Task List but was not in attendance. Members determined that we would wait until she could walk us through the changes at the next meeting. Meanwhile, members noted:

Things to do in August:

1. Check in on details for the conference.
2. Check on Master Gardener of the Year award.

Member at Large report:

Candace has booked City Picnics for the awards banquet. Details to be worked out.

President-elect report:

Charley reported that the newly-formed Finance Committee will be meeting shortly. They need to set a date. This will occur at Cindy's house. One topic will be what can be shredded before the documents must be moved to a new location.

Charley reported that we still need people for the following openings in 2018: Member at Large, State Representative, Vice President

President report:

Designer meeting done. Cori will take ideas to Farmers Market people. Builder cannot get to project until the end of September

IMG Convention in Portland was well-attended by Thurston County MG's. 17 members attended. Cori, Cindy, and Pam provided positive report on the convention.

Budget: Bev and Cindy are working on a communication to all budget heads to get their expenses/income together for submission. They are being asked to do a thoughtful job of setting goals. Get garden leads to Cindy from Cori. Information due in early October. Cindy and Bev will meet with chairs if needed.

Cori added that demo gardens and clinics are required for the program. The Board should be appreciative while we ask for this information. Cindy will run communication by Cori before sending it out.

Committee reports: (Committees that did not submit reports are not listed.)

Bloomin Bingo listing and information is now on the website.

Plant Sale – The Plant Sale Committee is close to spending all budgeted money for 2017. Midge has reported that there have been no more break-ins, but more things missing and lots of needles. Members suggested that we install a sharps disposal system. Cori will investigate.

Handicrafts – Penny and Cindy will go out to Yelm Farmers Market to sell handicrafts. They are taking sedum as well.

Nominations – Charley has some ideas, but wants suggestions for next year.

Activities – 15 members are going to a Vashon Island event to build mosaic bird baths.

Program Report: Cori submitted her report for July

- MG training-On June 30th 48 trainees completed all their quizzes and final exam. Graduation photos will be posted on our Facebook page.
- 2017 MRC volunteer training application and info is posted on our website. Training will take place on Tuesday evenings and some Saturday mornings in late September-October.
- Summer outreach events are in full swing (Children's Garden, Farmer's Markets, presentations/workshops, Fair prep etc.)
- Demo gardens and clinic operations.
 - o Had check-in meetings with Dirt Works and Closed Loop Park garden committees (will be meeting with Olympia Farmers Market committee in late July/August).
 - o Question/answer clinics have been hopping with a variety of plant disease and plant/insect ID questions being asked.
- Children's Garden program has begun and will run through August 22nd. At our first session, we had 23 Master Gardener volunteers lead 48 kids with their 28 chaperones in garden bed planting and harvesting activities. We ended with a lesson and crafts on seeds. A very successful first day.
- 16 Master Gardeners from Thurston County and myself joined over 1,200+ fellow volunteers, coordinators and horticulture gurus at the International Master Gardener Conference in Portland, Oregon from July 10th – July 14th. The week was packed with great learning opportunities including fabulous presentations, tours, idea sharing mixers and evening educational events. Master Gardener volunteers came from 46 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, and South Korea. The next International MG conference will be in Pennsylvania in 2019.

Survey:

Cindy went through her draft of a member survey. A chance for free membership next year will be provided to those who identify themselves

Discussion followed, during which suggestions were made to clarify the survey document.

Because of the discussion the following goals were identified for 2018:

Increase attendance

Improve meetings with fun. (Do we need a “social director”?)

Cindy will send out again for proofing before sending.

Foundation/MG Program Picnic Planning:

Charley will look at the site and report back.

Restrooms, outlets, plenty of seating, # of tables.

Need plan in place

Charley will come up with a blurb for FF and send to Cori.

Foundation will provide drinks

Attendees will be asked to bring potluck items and table service for selves. (Can bring crock pots).

Pam brings cooler. Candace purchase beverages and ice.

Board arrive at 4:30 p.m.

Advertising of private/community events on website

Cindy asked if we have policy/criteria. *Existing informal policy is* that events should be sponsored by non-profit organizations.

Members agreed that we need to include new criteria in “publicity” policy, which takes in the website and other issues. No private sales will be allowed. Informal policy for now was reaffirmed that only organizations that have appeared in Friday Flash (already vetted by Cori) will be published on the website.

Follow-up: Discuss language for formal policy.

7:20 Adjourn

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

August 9, barbecue/board meeting, 5 p.m., Cindy’s

August 10, picnic, Rose Garden at Priest Point Park

September 14, Bloomin’ Bingo

Submitted,

Pamela E. Roberts,
Secretary