**Benton County Master Gardener Association**

**Board Meeting**

**July 11, 2016**

**In Attendance:**  Christina Clark, Kathy Clark, Sally Elliott, Steve Jacobs, Judith Kenner, Jennifer Klammer, Paula Lupcho, Pami Opfer, Sandy Piper, Rich Taylor, and Peggy Worthington

**Location:** Benton County Extension Offices

President Jennifer Klammer called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**Mission Moment:** Jennifer Klammer announced that there were 7 people, 2 of whom were new, plus Master Gardeners at the Seed to Supper follow-up workshop on June 25th. They were engaged, and one expressed an interest in becoming a Master Gardener. Judith Kenner suggested that the next workshop on July 16th would be an opportunity to talk to parents of Kids Grow participants and gather data for the Search for Excellence nomination.

**Gardening Moment:** Several board members shared what’s currently happening in their gardens.

**Adoption of Minutes: It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the June 6, 2016 minutes as amended.**

**President’s Report:** Jennifer Klammer announced that, effective immediately, Jana Tindall and Dee Wallace have resigned from the board. Board members accepted their resignations with regrets.

**2016 Board Visibility Goals Updates**

* **Demo Garden Workshops.** Steve Jacobs reported that the irrigation system will be completed this coming weekend and that the signs are up. Kathy Clark reported that the Fairgrounds Entrance Garden Committee is planning signage for key plants which they hope to have ready by the Benton County Fair. Jennifer Klammer has allocated $250 from the President’s Discretionary Fund for this purpose.
* **Mini College Scholarships:** Jennifer Klammer announced that Lisa Gonzalez, Sophie Grow, Rosalind Hutton, and Judy Shaw have been awarded the Mini College Scholarships. They were identified via a random drawing from those who submitted their names as interested. Each one is asked to report to the board something she learned that either is personally applicable or would be interesting for the board members to know.
* **Special Allocations Announcement:** Jennifer Klammer and Paula Lupcho will craft an announcement explaining that there are no funds for special allocations at this time. Pami Opfer will include the announcement in the weekly Benton County Master Gardener Newsletter. Board committee liaisons are asked to communicate to their respective committees that special allocation funds are not available this year and to encourage committee chairs to plan realistically and to request funds be included in the annual Benton County Master Gardener budget if appropriate.
* **NPK Kiosks:** Christina Clark reminded board members that the purpose of these kiosk displays is to get garden information out into the public and to encourage interactions with passers-by. Information in the kiosks is also available via a blog which is identified by a QR code at the bottom of each display. Each participating organization is also identified with a QR code. The committee is now constructing the physical kiosks, 30 at a time. Some are finished; however, they need additional funds and supplies to complete all of them. **It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve $450 for NPK kiosks to be taken from Board Discretionary Funds, after which an amendment to increase the amount to $500 was approved.**

**Nomination Committee:** Jennifer Klammer reminded board members that the Nomination Committee for board members will be forming soon. She asked board members to let her know if they are or are not interested in remaining on the board. She and Judith Kenner will announce Nomination Committee members at the August board meeting.

**Policy Review Schedule.** Jennifer Klammer showed a table outlining when each section of the Articles of Association, the Constitution, and Bylaws is scheduled to be reviewed and by which board member(s). (See attachment) These reviews should be completed in August.

**Treasurer.** Paula Lupcho presented several items to the board:

* She distributed the monthly financial reports (see attachments).
* She also had received a letter from the Benton County Fairgrounds Foundation requesting participation in an August 4th BBQ fundraiser. Paula suggested that the board send a few Master Gardeners to attend in order to strengthen relationships with the new Fairgrounds Manager. **It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve up to $200 to be taken from the Board Discretionary Funds to send up to 5 Master Gardeners to this event at the “Friend of Fair” level of $40 per person.** Jennifer Klammer took suggestions of Master Gardeners who would be appropriate to attend and will call them.
* Paula has sent reimbursement forms to the recipients of the Mini College scholarships and has requested their badge inserts as proof of attendance before she sends reimbursement.
* Regarding Special Allocations, she has carefully looked at the budget and anticipates being able to grant Special Allocations again in the upcoming budget year.

**Benton County Master Gardener Association Programs:** Peggy Worthington summarized the programs for the rest of 2016:

* September 19—Annual picnic
* October 17—Perhaps seed saving
* November 10—A lunch-time graduation ceremony. A venue has not yet been identified.
* December—Greens party

**OMGA Mini College Donations:** Judith Kenner announced that she has received plenty of donations and is now establishing value and organizing them.

**Membership:** Paula Lupcho reported for Sheila Schweizer that, per the Oregon Master Gardener Association request, long-time Benton County Master Gardener Association members have been identified: 20 years Signe Danler

 30 years Janet Throop who was trained before the BCMGA was formed, was a

 founding member of the BCMGA, and is still active.

**Committee Updates:**

* **Windowsill Gardening—**Board members discussed the possibility of reorganizing responsibilities for the chair of this committee in order to make it more manageable. No decision was made regarding a specific reorganization plan.
* **Plant Sale—**Christina Clark explained to that the Plant Sale Committee has decided to limit Dig-and-Divide days to 6 in the fall in an effort to manage the plants to a more realistic number that will sell.

**Extension:** Pami Opfer reported:

* She and Brooke Edmunds have solicited feedback from this year’s trainees to improve instruction. They are considering changes in order to strengthen the classroom delivery.
* In early August they will be distributing signs for the Benton County Fair.
* Farmer’s Market topics are doing fine. As a reminder, she will be emailing guidelines to volunteers.
* She and Brooke are working to have recruitment tables at garden festivals.
* They are also working on publicity for Demo Garden workshops.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

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Sandy Piper

Secretary