

**Benton County Master Gardener Association
Board Meeting
August 4, 2014**

In Attendance: Kathy Clark, Brooke Edmunds, Bill Glassmire, Susan Hoffman, Paula Lupcho, Janet Magedanz, Steve Naberhuis, Pami Opfer, Sandy Piper, Sheila Schweizer, Judy Shaw, Ellen Tappan, and Jana Tindall

Location: Benton County Extension Offices

The meeting was called to order at 8:58 a.m. by Janet Magedanz.

Mission Moment:

- Paula Lupcho reported that the board job descriptions have been finished and will be on the agenda next month.
- Ellen Tappan offered a shout-out to Janet Throop for her work in teaching winter gardening at the Corvallis Caring Place garden. Many people appreciate Janet's dedication to teaching about gardening.
- Jana Tindall reminded board members that Community Outreach is a great place to donate extra produce, and Paula Lupcho added that produce from the demonstration garden could also be donated to Community Outreach.

Gardening Moment:

- Susan Hoffman brought a large squash into which she had drilled holes the size of candles (1 ½" paddle bit) to make a striking centerpiece for a dinner party.
- Various board members mentioned specific plants that had died in their gardens this year because of the tremendously cold winter.
- Pami Opfer volunteered to contribute the September Gardening Moment.

Adoption of Minutes: The July minutes had not mentioned that Steve Naberhuis had distributed the Treasurer's Report electronically. The July minutes were then adopted as amended.

Special Allocations: After lengthy and varied discussions, the board took these actions:

- It was moved, seconded, and passed to increase from \$500 to \$750 the special allocation to the Benton County Corvallis Public Library.
- It was moved, seconded, and passed to increase from \$2,500 to \$3,000 the special allocation to the Oregon State University Master Gardener Endowment. This money supports the State Master Gardener's (Gail Langellotto) activities.

Greenhouse:

- Janet Magedanz asked whether or not the financial analysis has been completed regarding locating a separate property for the Master Gardener greenhouse. Paula Lupcho reported that research has been done regarding the needs; however, completing a financial analysis is predicated on first locating a property for the greenhouse, given the number of variables that can be associated with any specific location. The task of developing a complete analysis could be identified as detailing a "Business Plan."
- In addition to location and finances, members of the board offered additional aspects to consider: legality, educational focus of the Master Gardeners, activities that could be conducted in the greenhouse, partnership with other organizations.

- Janet Magedanz will contact Debbie Lauer, chair of the Greenhouse Committee, to ask her if the current committee would like to accept this new expanded charge.

Defining Eligibility for Trainee Scholarship to Honor Barb Fick: Paula Lupcho noted that the board had previously decided that Brooke Edmunds will assume this task. Also relating to this scholarship, there will be a line on the application to indicate interest in this scholarship. If the applicant checks “yes,” s/he will be requested to attach a supporting statement. Brooke and Pami Opfer will evaluate the applications and made a decision regarding the award.

Nominating Committee for Next Year’s Board: Two additional Master Gardeners need to be identified to serve with Kathy Clark. Jana Tindall volunteered; Lisa Borgerson and Deborah Sullivan were suggested as possibilities for Janet Magedanz to call for the third member of this committee.

Treasurer’s Report: Steve Naberhuis presented printed summaries for his report and referred to the lengthy discussions the board had earlier in the meeting regarding special allocations.

Membership Retention: Jana Tindall suggested that a “corresponding secretary” send notes to Master Gardeners who are have a medical concern, e.g., illness or broken bone, or another personal situation creating stress. Debbie Wray and Sheila Schweizer, Membership Co-chairs, offered to write the notes. It will be important for Master Gardeners to notify them of any person to whom it would be appropriate to write a note.

Extension Report: Brooke Edmunds noted that the national Master Gardener standards are now greater than the Benton County Association’s standards and asked the board to consider adopting the national standards as a requirement for members to stay current.

	Annual Educational Hours for Renewed Certification	Annual Volunteer Hours for Renewed Certification
Current Benton County	6	10
National	10	20

It was moved, seconded, and passed to support Brooke Edmunds in adopting the new standards beginning the reporting year ending in November 2015. The board also supported changing the term “volunteer hours” to “public outreach hours.”

The meeting was adjourned at 10:53 a.m.