

Draft

**LINCOLN COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION**

**January 16, 2016, Executive Board Meeting**

**OSU Extension Office, 1211 Bay Blvd., Newport, OR**

(\* indicates documents that will be attached to the final meeting minutes filed in the Secretary's notebook in the MG office)

Board Members Present: Donna Davis, Dawn Henton, Karen Jones, Heather Fortner, Liz Olsen, Jeff Olsen, Mary-Ellen Townsend, Pat Shaw

Non-Board Members Present: Robyn Hansen, Lynn Alexanderson, Michael Christy, Jill Johnson, Pam McElroy, Sonja Lovas, Cathi Block, Becky Stiles, Claudette Schroeder

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President Donna Davis.

Donna reiterated the "wanted items" discussed in the morning's Planning Session, including obtaining a heated storage unit, sharing garden photographs on electronic media, implementing a Seed to Supper program, determining our involvement with the 2016 Lincoln County Fair, and implementing advanced MG training.

The minutes of the November 9, 2015, executive board meeting were approved as published.

Prior to the meeting, the following electronic motion was made by Mary Jane Bonelitz:

**Motion: To authorize Mary Jane Bonelitz to purchase a \$100.00 gift certificate from Amazon for Pat Shaw as a thank you gift.** The motion was unanimously approved. At the board meeting, Donna Davis presented past president Pat Shaw with a thank you card and Amazon gift card in appreciation of her service as LCMGA president in 2015.

**Financial Reports:** Donna gave a synopsis of the financial history of our chapter since its formation in 1996. There were no changes or corrections to the financial statements for November and December 2015.\* Below is a summary of LCMGA financial information as of December 31, 2015:

Account Balances:	
CD 6728	\$10,071.26
CD 8906	\$15,055.13
Checking:	\$10,183.90
Savings:	\$ 5,054.76
Scholarship:	<u>\$ 5,000.27</u>
Total:	\$45,365.32

Income/Expenditures:

Income YTD: \$22,321.62 (\$17,680 budgeted)  
 Expenditures YTD: \$16,127.99 (\$17,680 budgeted)

The proposed budget for 2016 was briefly discussed. Income and expenditures are proposed to be \$16,205.00. The proposed budget will be presented and voted on at the March 16, 2016, General Meeting, which will be held at the South Beach Community Center.

Board member Jeff Olsen asked to be allowed to resign as co-treasurer so that someone with more expertise and interest in the position could be appointed. The board agreed to allow Jeff to resign as co-treasurer. A modified and brief description for the position will be prepared and a solicitation sent out as soon as possible for a new co-treasurer. Emily Blume will continue to be treasurer, but she is unable to attend board meetings due to her work schedule.

**Old Business:**

Audit Committee: Judie Rickus has agreed to be on the audit committee. Two other members are needed. A few names were suggested, and Donna will follow up with those individuals.

Seafood and Wine Festival: Insurance for the event is in place, and a certificate of insurance will be sent to the Chamber of Commerce once it is received. The committee for this year's festival consists of Jeff Olson, Judie Rickus, Mary Cutting, and new member Steve Luckini. Jeff will start signing up volunteers soon. Wines from 14 Hands Winery will once again be poured.

**New Business:**

Lincoln County Maintenance: David Davis of Lincoln County Maintenance Department indicated that a spring has been discovered behind the new Extension Building, and the county needs to install a French drain. As a result, the storage container behind the building needs to be emptied and moved. David also indicated there is a potential dry storage space for LCMGA items at the fairgrounds, for either long or short term use, in the form of a Conex ocean-going shipping container. The 8'x8'x30' container has recently been cleaned out and is available for use. The county would provide a lock for the container, as well as a key to the Harney Street gate for access after hours. Cathi Block and a few other chapter members will be touring the exhibit hall at the fairgrounds the week of January 18, and they will take a look at the container to see if it would be suitable for our use.

David also indicated there was space available at the northwest portion of the fairgrounds for a demonstration garden if LCMGA is interested.

If LCMGA decides to use either the storage unit or the garden space, or both, contracts would have to be drawn up between Extension and Lincoln County.

Annual Event: Pam McElroy has learned that the long-time coordinator of the Garden Expo, held at Newport Middle School, is retiring from that position. He has made an offer to LCMGA to run the event, which is scheduled for June 25, 2016. Pam has met with Liz Olsen and Cathi Block, and they agree that running the Garden Expo would be a good fundraiser for LCMGA, and would increase our chapter's exposure in the community. A working committee consisting of Pam McElroy, Cathi Block, Dawn Henton and Heather Fortner was formed to determine whether our chapter can muster the time and resources necessary to participate in this year's Expo. They will report back to the chapter at the February 8, 2016, board meeting.

Quests: Cathi Block reported that a book entitled "Oregon Coast Quests" is available through HMSC. Quests are learning adventures, similar to geo-caching, that use clues and hints to encourage participants to discover the natural, cultural and historical "treasures" of place and community. Suitable for groups of all ages, self-guided Quests allow lifelong learners to explore parks, trails and other outdoor spaces in new ways and at their own pace. Currently, there are 24 active Quests located in Lincoln, Coos, Curry and Benton counties. Cathi thought that placing Quests in some or all of LCMGA demonstration gardens would be fun and a good way to provide exposure for the gardens. A new book will be coming out soon and there is time to include our gardens. If anyone is interested in helping Cathi with this endeavor, please let her know.

Budget Modifications: Heather reported that one Coastal Currents newsletter has been prepared and sent out, and another one will be out soon. Please let her know if you need a hard copy. Nancy Kloak will be doing the membership directory, and would like to include a photo of each member, and a very short description of each member's gardening specialty. There was general agreement that Nancy's idea is a good one, but no decision will be made until we know how much extra money would be necessary for the directory. Donna and Nancy will be in contact with each other.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned by the president at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Jones, LCMGA Secretary