

DRAFT
LINN COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 5, 2013

Attendees

Marilyn Scheffler, President
Sharon Richards, 1st Vice President
Marie Madison, Secretary
Dan Borg, Treasurer
Susan Morton, OMGA Representative
Bev Hall, Member at Large
Alenne Walker, Member at Large
Dave Krieger, Demonstration Garden
Sheryl Casteen, Gardening in the PNW Brown Bag-Lebanon
Betty Anderson
Randy Peckham, Trainee
Pami Opfer, Extension Program Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by Marilyn Scheffler in the Evelyn Downing Room of OSU-Linn County Extension.

MINUTES - Marie Madison

January minutes were unanimously approved as circulated.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Dan Borg

- The account balance as of January 31 was \$9805.12. Dan deposited \$372 and paid out \$621.
- At present 75 experienced Master Gardeners have paid their dues. There are also 23 trainees. OMGA has been paid for all the memberships to date.

EXTENSION REPORT - Pami Opfer

- Albany Farmers Market is pretty well covered. Dave Krieger has agreed to keep the box of reference materials at his home which is located near the court house. Alenne Walker and Ann Reitman will staff the clinic table in the absence of other experienced Master Gardeners. Trainees are eager to sign up.
- An e-invitation will be sent to all members to remind them of the membership meeting on Monday, February 11.
- The directory will be put together as the deadline for paying dues is past. The plan is to mail the directory to all members in mid-February. OMGA membership cards will be included in the mailing.
- The Committee Fair is to be March 14 at the Training Center from 11:45 am - 12:30 pm. It is a potluck, so bring something to serve no fewer than 6 people.
- Sheryl suggested purchasing an I-Pad to allow people who staff the Albany Farmers' Market clinic to obtain information from the internet for clients. The concern was that there was no WiFi available at that site. Marie Madison mentioned she thought the city was planning to have WiFi in the core area so it might be available or will be soon. Pami

will check into it.

MEETINGS - Sharon Richards

- The February meeting will feature Rich Little who will talk about the Mason Bee project and how members can participate. He will also have mason bee nests available for sale.
- Sharon mentioned that she had been contacted by Dell Owen, a new resident from Santa Barbara, who would like to speak about sustainable landscaping. After some discussion, it was decided to invite him to be the speaker for the March membership meeting.
- Sheryl suggested inviting Daryl Shonnard to talk about vegetable gardening who might draw more of the public to our meetings. Other topics, including lasagna gardening and inviting birds/hummingbirds into the garden, were suggested. It was stressed that all topics needed to focus on horticulture.
- Marie suggested placing the schedule of meetings with their topics in the directory.

MENTORING - Marilyn Scheffler

- Marilyn was very disappointed in the response to the plea for mentors in the weekly MG e-mail. There were no responses. Many of last year's trainees have stepped forward to be a mentor. There are two trainees per mentor and Marilyn has taken the last four.
- The mentor luncheon is February 14. There is to be no food that require a bowl - nothing "soupy." Each dish is to serve six people. Sheryl suggested that since only mentors are bringing food, the serving size ought to be increased to at least 10 people.

COMMITTEE FAIR - Marie Madison

- Marie has contacted all of the project leaders and invited them to participate in the fair and bring some type of visual display of their project. As she only called yesterday, some of the project leaders had not had time to respond, but most of those she reached agreed to participate.
- Two work days have been reserved at which Marie will assist project leaders put together a display: February 22, 2 - 4 pm and February 25, 10 am - 12 pm in the Evelyn Downing Room.
- Marie said she would put together displays for those committees that are missing project leaders. Hopefully, that will encourage people to volunteer for some of them.

DEMONSTRATION GARDEN - Dave Krieger

- An organizational meeting was held on February 1 with 11 people participating. There were a few trainees as well as returning experienced MGs
- Several projects are being considered including: a dahlia bed to replace the iris bed, an asparagus bed to replace the gooseberry bed, a potting table/vegetable cleaning table, a brussels sprout bed, and a map showing the different beds and planted areas and who is caring for them that will be posted.
- Dave thought that having a few barbecues in the garden might draw more people. This was met with approval. It was suggested that he might enlist the assistance of Master Food Preservers/Food Educators as they also need to pay back time for their training.

PLANT SALE - Susan Morton

- Gardening 101 is being included with the plant sale. Susan is looking for speakers and topics. She thought Rich Little and his Mason bees would be a good one. She also thought of compost and propagation. Michael Resseguie, a Benton MG, might be someone to contact for compost. Other contacts included Allied Waste and Soil and Water Conservation groups. Susan will follow up on these.

POTTING DAY AT TOM'S GARDEN CENTER - Pami Opfer

- Sheri Kerns, a trainee, has agreed to help with the potting day. Nancy Freeburn has agreed to help plan and organized the day, but she has another obligation on the day itself and cannot attend.
- Travis Kerns, the new owner of Tom's Garden Center, is very willing to help the Master Gardener Association

NEW PROJECTS - Marilyn Scheffler

- Calapooia Middle School garden - Randy Peckham and Sheryl Casteen
 - Randy submitted with the endorsement of Sheryl Casteen and application that the Calapooia Middle School garden be accepted as a LCMGA project under his direction.
 - Robin Galloway, 4-H Extension Faculty at Linn County, referred Randy to Mara Burke, a math and science teacher at Calapooia Middle School, to undertake the garden project. The garden is established but in need of upgrading and maintenance. Randy requested \$500 for materials and supplies. There are 13 beds of 4 feet x 8 feet. Soil is needed to augment what is already there. The beds are three years old and nothing has been added to them since their establishment. There is a framework for a cloche but plastic is needed to cover it. A good drip irrigation system was installed, but the timers need to be replaced as does some of the tubing. Chips are needed for the pathways to eliminate some of the mud.
 - After discussion the board unanimously accepted the project. Susan Morton moved that \$300 be given to this project now and revisit the possibility of giving the additional funds at a later date. Dave Krieger seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously.
- Brownsville Farmers Market - Pami Opfer
 - Don Lyon, a trainee, with support from Steve Toma, an experienced MG, have requested that Brownsville Farmers' Market have a Master Gardener clinic table for the entire season. They are willing to staff the clinic.
 - As no project application had been received, Pami will ensure that one is completed and provided at the March board meeting.
 - Reference materials can be obtained through an OMGA Karl Carlson grant. Marilyn and Pami will work on the grant proposal.
- Objection was expressed by Marie that both these projects were dropped on the Board with no prior notice. The process is to have the applications available for the Board prior to the meeting where they are to be addressed so board members can make an educated

decision. Apologies were made.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Don Borg reminded everyone a reimbursement form is required to receive reimbursement for monies spent. The form must include the signature of the committee chair from which the funds are to be drawn. Handing him a receipt and expecting a reimbursement is not acceptable.
- Randy mentioned that the city of Albany now has Comcast channel 28 which may be available to Master Gardeners to advertise their events.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie F. Madison". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Marie Madison
Secretary