

DRAFT
LINN COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 3, 2012

Attendees

Marilyn Scheffler, President
Betty Goergen, Vice-President
Marie Madison, Secretary
Dan Borg, Treasurer
Susan Morton, OMGA Representative
Traudy Shawger, Member at Large
Bev Hall, Member at Large
Stephanie Low, Demonstration Garden representative
Rick Little, Spineless Wonders Committee Chair
Pami Opfer, Extension Program Assistant
Barb Fick, Extension Faculty – Horticulture

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

Minutes:

May minutes were unanimously accepted as corrected. Susan Morton moved and Bev Hall seconded the motion.

General Business

The LCMG letterhead and note cards are back from the printer. Marie will keep some and the remainder will be left at the Extension office. People will be advised of their availability and location via the MG weekly e-mail.

Extension Report – Barb Fick & Pam Opfer

- Many diseases are showing up that are not usually seen such as pear rust affecting even resistant varieties.
- OSU has hired an entomologist for insect identification
- There is need for a canopy, particularly for the Sweet Home Farmers Market. It was suggested that the Demonstration Garden had one that might be borrowed. However, it was thought that having a second canopy was a good idea. Susan Morton moved and Betty Goergen seconded that Pami be authorized to purchase a sturdy, easy to assemble canopy for \$150 or less. Motion passed unanimously.
- Pami is considering making site visits to each of the MG projects. Potentially, this could become a tour for all members, or a mini trip for members each month. She will take photos as they are wonderful advertisement.

Member Meetings

- Betty Goergen will arrange for a tour for August. Some suggestions were the Asian garden near Soap Creek, Darryl's Nursery, Lavender Fair.

- There was discussion about holding another Oktoberfest. Stockton has chosen not to host as he was concerned that last year seemed to promote beer and beer drinking to the exclusion of other beverages.
- Stephanie mentioned that potlucks were excellent for keeping in contact with each other. She thought three each year was a good number: Graduation in November, early summer and August or September
- It was suggested that with the need to draw as large a number of members as possible for the vote on the By-laws in September, a potluck be held.

Treasurer's Report – Dan Borg

- Beginning balance was \$8545.98 as of June 1. Three checks were written for a total of \$664.32 most of which was for the garden tour. \$3580 was deposited from the garden tour leaving the current balance at \$11,461.66
- The report was approved as presented.
- OMGA Send-a-Friend check came for Betty Goergen's expenses to attend Mini College and will be deposited into the Association account.
- Planting Seeds of Change grant check for \$500 will be issued this week.

Grant Request

Brenda Winslow submitted a request for a grant of \$500 to purchase fencing material for the Sweet Home High School and Junior High school gardens to protect them from deer and vandals. A completed application form was submitted with a cover letter.

- The application was reviewed using the Grant Application Review by the Board form.
- It was moved by Susan Morton and seconded by Traudy Shawger that a grant of no more than \$500 be approved contingent upon receiving a detailed estimate of cost and an assurance of installation. Motion was passed. Marilyn will contact Brenda to have the estimate sent to her. Once received, Dan will write the check.
- It was suggested that photos be taken of the site. Pami said she would do a site visit and take photos.
- It was suggested that a sign be attached to the fence stating that funds were supplied by LCMGA. Cost of the sign would be absorbed by the Association.
- As a result of this review, the grant application form will be revised to include an estimate of cost be submitted as part of the application.

Summary of Projects

- A discussion of the project summary is deferred until August.
- Marie suggested that a page for each project be a part of the Linn MG website.
- It was suggested project summaries should be the job of the Historian. Joanna Baum has chosen not to be the Historian so someone needs to be appointed.

OMGA Request for 20 + Year Veterans and Lifetime Members

Marilyn stated that OMGA has ribbons honoring 20+ year and Lifetime Members but doesn't know how best to use them. She requested suggestions on how to honor these long-time volunteers. Suggestions included:

- Have a photo display at Mini-College of all 20+ and Lifetime members
- Have OMGA send a personal letter of congratulations to each
- Have OMGA create a certificate of appreciation and attach the ribbon

- Send the ribbons to the local associations to be used at their Graduation/Recognition ceremonies.
- At the local level, offer to drive the long-time members to the Graduation Ceremony

Lifetime members for LCMGA include Lyle Jack and John Landers; 20+ members include Linda Boyd, Vivian Chelstad, and Suzi Maresh,

By-Law and Policies and Procedures Revision

- Marie read the changes that had been made by the Ad Hoc committee of Dan, Marilyn and Marie.
- Most changes were accepted as presented. Policies and Procedures, General, Section 2 was reworded for better clarity.
- Susan Morton moved to accept the revised documents as amended. Dan Borg seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Marie will make the appropriate changes to the documents and forward them to Pami for posting on the website. By posting now, the membership will be able to vote at the September membership meeting.

Plant Sale – Susan Morton

- It needs to be smaller and held in the Demonstration garden with an education component.
- Sheryl Casteen has iris to dig.
- Perhaps have only one dig to provide perennials.
- We need to wait for future plans.
- Fry Nursery still hasn't billed the Association for the consignment plants they provided. It was suggested to wait until a bill was received to pay them. The amount is approximately \$100.

Garden Tour- Marie Madison

- The Garden Tour was a resounding success. The goal was to sell 300 tickets and 358 were sold.
- According to the survey the people appreciated the variety of gardens selected, the signs, and the friendly greeters. They liked the plant labels found in Garden 1 and would like to see similar labels in the rest of the gardens. As expected, most people learned of the tour from friends. The next most frequent source was the Update insert in the Democrat Herald. All other forms of advertisement were mentioned except bookmarks.
- There was no mention of refreshments provided except water provided in some of the gardens. It was felt that a refreshment stop was not needed but water in each of the gardens would be appreciated, especially if it is a hot day.
- It was suggested that a listing of area restaurants where one could stop for lunch be provided and a money off coupon be offered by the restaurant in exchange for the advertising.
- It was suggested that in years past artists and musicians were an enjoyable bonus and perhaps that would be nice to include next year.
- It was suggested that the Demonstration Garden be the last garden on the tour and have items available for sale such as lavender wands, garden art, plants, etc.
- Nancy Messman and Sharon Richards have agreed to select gardens for next year's tour.

They have already started visiting gardens. A chair is still needed to coordinate the tour. Pami will advertise the need in the MG weekly e-mail.

Demonstration Garden –Stephanie Low

- A tomato test patch of slicing tomatoes is being grown. There will be a taste off in September
- Five trainees are actively participating in the garden.
- The Fairgrounds offered to make seven directional signs if the Association paid for them. The cost for these has since been forgiven.
- Marie was requested to write a thank you note to Willamette Graystone for their donation of pavers and to the Fairgrounds staff for the signage.
- The Fairgrounds is proposing a Made in Oregon Fair in May 2013 to be held at the fairgrounds. The LCMGA has been offered a booth to sell items. Stephanie thought perhaps it could be in lieu of the plant sale. The Made in Oregon Fair is still in the proposal stage. Stephanie has agreed to be the liaison.
- Volunteers are still needed at the Garden during Fair which is July 19-22. A Doodle post is up and will be opened to any MG. Pami also needs volunteers for the Extension MG display booth.

Committee of Spineless Wonders

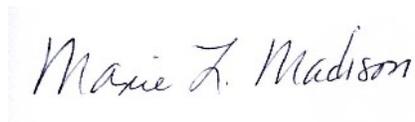
- The first meeting was held two months ago. The next meeting will be in the fall.
- Several presentations have been made including the Live Well Age Well event, Lebanon schools, Entomology training and others.
- Rich will teach “Not So Beneficial Bugs” at Mini College
- He has been awarded the Extension Educators Grant through OMGA for the Mason Bee Project. Marilyn suggested the he reapply for the grant again next year in case all the expenses for the project were not met. He could also consider selling mason bee boxes with a “How to” information sheet included.
- Rich is improving the insect boxes in the office but is having difficulty obtaining all the insects he needs.

Miscellaneous

- LCMGA has been awarded the Karl Carlson grant from OMGA to purchase reference materials for Farmers Market clinic boxes. The check will be made payable to LCMGA
- Bonnie Bowens donated a sign that reads “Gardens Open to Public” Dan sent her the non-profit donation form and Marie will send a thank you note.
- Stephanie Low is the only person who has requested and received Mini-College funds. The announcement of available funds will go out one more time in the MG weekly e-mail.

Meeting was adjourned at 12 noon

Respectfully submitted,



Marie Madison, Secretary