

**LINN COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 5, 2013**

ATTENDEES

Marilyn Scheffler, President	Rich Little, Spineless Wonders
Sharon Richards, 1 st Vice President	Pat Mason
Marie Madison, Secretary	Renee Webb
Dan Borg, Treasurer	Larry Steele
Bev Hall, Member at Large	Pami Opfer, Extension Program Assistant
Susan Morton, OMGA Rep	Barb Fick, Extension Faculty
Dave Krieger, Demo Garden	

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Marilyn Scheffler in the Evelyn Downing Room of OSU-Linn County Extension.

AGENDA – Marilyn Scheffler

Agenda was accepted as amended. Additions include presentation of a gift basket and the status of Extension

MINUTES - Marie Madison

Motion made by Susan Morton, seconded by Bev Hall to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion passed.

EXTENSION REPORT - Pami Opfer & Barb Fick

Pami:

- New Training
 - The draft training schedule is complete. Resources and websites are listed on the back of the schedule. These sites are always in flux.
 - Plant Problem Scenario will occur during lunch, possibly seven times
 - Orientation is December 3 at 12 noon
- Pruning workshops will take place January 30 (1 -3 pm at Lewis Brown Farm near Corvallis) and February 18 (1-3:30 pm at Grandpa's Farm Stand near Lebanon). Flyers will be posted later in the year.
- Executive board members need to report their hours
- A survey is being developed to determine the change of behavior after completing the Master Gardener course and payback. This will be used to reinforce value of the Master Gardener program to OSU administration and others.
- Graduation and awards night is November 18. Derik Godwin and Bill Braunworth have both said they would attend.

Barb

- This is a banner year for mushrooms. We have a mushroom expert who is willing to identify mushrooms for us. People are to bring a sample mushroom to the Extension office or take a photo of it, then the expert will identify it. There is to be a mushroom class the second weekend in December. It is four hours long. Students will make mushroom logs to take home with them.
- A new publication *Shrubs to Know in Oregon* is available for purchase. It is a companion to *Trees to Know in Oregon*.

STATUS OF EXTENSION – Rich Little

ECAN is an advocate/lobby group. One of their goals is to prevent Extension from disappearing. Originally, Extension was created to advise farmers on how to grow better crops. They did that job very well. Demographics are changing. There are fewer and fewer commercial farmers. Extension's role has changed as a result. Extension sees their current role in food security: from production to dissemination;

from the commercial grower to the potted plant on the patio.

TREASURER'S REPORT - Dan Borg

- Beginning balance was \$11,721.92. Total checks written were \$318.48. Ending balance is \$11,403.44.
- It was noted that the budgeted income was \$5400. Actual income is \$5471.
- Draft budget for 2014 will be available at the December Board meeting. Committee chairs are reminded to submit their project needs to Dan before December.

The Treasurer's report was accepted by consensus as presented.

MEETINGS - Sharon Richards

- Monthly meetings
 - Because the Board meeting is on June 3rd and the Through the Garden Gate garden pre-tour is on June 7, it was decided not to have an additional June membership meeting.
 - Graduation will be the membership meeting for November
 - Hopefully there were be more summer meetings at the Demonstration Garden.
- Ballot for the election of officers is ready. Officer candidates are: President – Betty Goergen, 1st Vice President – Sharon Richards, 2nd Vice President – Marie Madison, Secretary – Renee Webb, Treasurer – Willene Kill, OMGA Representative – Susan Morton, Members at Large – Randy Peckham, Pat Mason, Paula Daniels.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Marilyn Scheffler

- Job Descriptions are still in process.
- Members-at-Large need to make reports to the Board regarding member interests and concerns. The new board will determine how that will be done. Geographic location may not be as important as common interest.
- There will be an officer orientation for the new board members. Date is not set yet.
- Lifetime Members
 - Criteria from other chapters was read.
 - After discussion, it was decided to postpone this award until 2014 to allow our chapter to develop its own criteria. It was felt that a combination of hours worked and years of membership was a good criteria. Emphasis on quality as well as attendance was important.

GIFT BASKET – Renee Webb

A gift basket with items from the Demonstration Garden, and from the volunteers who work at the garden, was given to Susan Morton to thank her for her donation of funds to purchase materials needed for the picnic table that is now being used at the garden.

DEMONSTRATION GARDEN - Dave Krieger

- It would be great to have a picnic at the garden next August.
- The blueberries and the fruit trees have been planted.
- A new worm bin has been constructed.
- An inventory of the shed contents was made.
- Future projects include:
 - High stand garden on rollers

- Delivery of seven yards of compost that will be spread as far as possible at the garden. What remains will be donated to the fairgrounds.
- Work days at the garden are still Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 – 3 pm. About six MGs work each of those days.

SPINELESS WONDERS - Rich Little

- Displays are still in process.
- A smaller system for mason bees is being developed
- Basic Entomology at MG training and a Pollinators at Insights into Gardening are on his teaching schedule.
- Bee boxes will be sold at Insights into Gardening.
- A trap for spotted Wing Drosophila is being developed with Amy Dreves. It will be patented through OSU.

CALAPOOIA SCHOOL GARDEN – Renee Webb for Randy Peckham

- The hoop houses have been covered with plastic for the winter.
- Compost bins have been set up.

EXTENSION STAFFING – Rich Little

Tri-County Horticulture position will close November 3. There are currently 15 applicants. Public presentations will be scheduled to allow the people to meet the applicants and ask questions. Interviews will be in December. Hire date is anticipated to be sometime in January – March.

OMGA REPORT – Susan Morton

- A balanced budget was passed for 2014. This was accomplished by some judicious cuts and sequestering a CD for the \$5000 deposit anticipated for 2017 International MG conference to take place in Portland.
- Officers were elected for 2014. President – Jim Liskey, Past President – Marilyn Scheffler, President Elect – Alan Cook, 1st Vice President – Mary Mellard, 2nd Vice President – Lynn Trimpe, 3rd Vice President – Jo Ann bones, Secretary – Judy Zettergren, Treasurer – Katherine Johnson.
- Mini College is at OSU in 2014 and at George Fox in 2015
- Jackson County commissioners have placed the Extension Service District on the ballot without requiring signature gathering. The committee is actively working on advertisement to get people to vote for it.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Clothing - Orders will be taken through March to allow trainees to order MG vests and shirts, too.
- Toxic Garden Proposal – There is potential for the project though there are many unanswered questions at this time. The consensus was to have Connie Schmidt keep the board informed of progress at OSU and to see what develops before making a decision.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.



Respectfully submitted,
Marie Madison, Secretary