

**DRAFT**  
**LINN COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 7, 2013**

**ATTENDEES**

Betty Goergen, President  
Sharon Richards, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Marie Madison, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Dan Borg, Acting Treasurer (office vacant)  
Ranee Webb, Secretary  
Susan Morton, OMGA Rep  
Randy Peckham, Member at Large  
Pat Mason, Member at Large  
Paula Daniels, Member at Large  
Dave Krieger, Demo Garden  
Richard Little, Spineless Wonders  
Pami Opfer, Extension Program Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 pm by Betty Goergen in the Evelyn Downing Room of the OSU-Linn County Extension.

**MINUTES**

As there were no additions or corrections, the minutes (as distributed), were approved by all members present.

**EXTENSION REPORT- Pami Opfer**

Upcoming Events

- The Gardening in the Pacific Northwest Brownbag Series: Winter 2014 at the Albany Public Library and East Linn LBCC in Lebanon starts Jan 8 & 9 and ends Feb 26 & 27
- Insights into Gardening- Feb 8th at the LaSells Stewart Center on the OSU campus.
- Fruit Tree Pruning Workshops, Jan 30 at Lewis Brown Farm, 3341 Peoria Rd, Corvallis and Feb 18 at Grandpas Farm Stand, 36483 Hwy 226, Albany
- Interviews for new extension position- details in Rich Little's report

Upcoming MG class and help desk training

- Pami asked if there was money in the budget for a partial scholarship for a new trainee. This was not in the proposed budget, so Pami will see if extension had funds for this.
- There will be 9-10 new trainees for Linn County MG program this year (about half the usual number, but a quality group).
- There is a schedule in the office for the new training and board members are welcome to attend any training to refresh their knowledge.
- Veterans will be needed to cover the help desk once or twice a week. The planned help desk hours are from 9:00-3:00 Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

- There will be no mentor potluck this year. More plant scenario sessions will be offered mid day during training.
- New trainees will be given a checklist of community projects. The committee heads will be given a list of those interested in working on their projects.
- There may not be a committee fair this year. It is a lot of work and the checklist might be as effective.
- Pami encouraged people to come to the training and give a short talk about projects that the trainees might want to join.
- Pami asked Rane Webb to report on plans for desk help training. Rane reported that re-training for veterans will probably be offered starting in late February or early March. Rane has developed a checklist for the trainers to use to encourage more uniform training. Veterans are encouraged to get re-training, since many have not worked the desk since reports went to an electronic form. With the smaller class of trainees, the help desk will have to rely on more veterans working the help desk.
- Pami said there has been some discussion about requiring veterans to work a minimum of 4 hours per year at the help desk. This might be required next year.

Pami will be out on maternity leave for 3 months starting approximately late April.

#### **SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT- Richard Little**

- 3 finalists have been selected- all are from Oregon.
- There will be a two day process where the candidates will travel around the counties visiting OSU administrator, extension and other OSU employees. They will also be shown activities in the counties. (example- the demo garden)
- Part of the interview process will require each candidate to give a half hour presentation to the search committee and give a half hour example of a class presentation.
- MG members are invited to come and ask questions at the following interview times at the Linn Co. Extension Office.
- The first candidate will be interviewed on Jan 15<sup>th</sup> from 11:00-11:30.
- The second candidate will be interviewed on Jan 15<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-3:30
- The third candidate will be interviewed on Jan 28<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-3:30

#### **BUDGET – Dan Borg**

- Dan is continuing as acting treasurer until a new treasurer can be found. Willene Kill has withdrawn. Susan Morton is looking for a new treasurer.
- The December 2013 proposed budget showed that we would be spending \$390 more than expected income.
- Dan reported that dues for LCMGA have been paid by 67 members to date.
- Since the demo garden had asked for a large increase, it was suggested that plants and seeds expenses be lowered from \$250 to \$150, that garden supplies be cut from \$200 to \$0, and that general supplies be cut from \$200 to \$100.

- Dan reported that \$754.97 had been spent in December and deposits were \$685.00 with an end of year balance of \$11,709.61 at the Willamette Community Bank.
- The January 2013 to December 13, 2013 income was \$1904.49
- Susan Morton made a motion that we approve the 2014 budget with the changes made. Marie Madison seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- There was a discussion about possibly putting some of the \$11,709.61 balance in some form of interest bearing account or possibly about \$7,000 in a CD. Betty Goergen will check on rates at other banks or credit unions and report back next month.

#### **NEW BUSINESS- Betty Goergen**

- Betty lead a discussion about the need for a dedicated computer for the treasurer. Quick Books and backup would be required.
- Marie Madison made a motion to set aside \$1000 for the purchase of a computer/laptop, Quick Books and a backup system. Susan Morton seconded the motion. Motion passed.

#### **SPINELESS WONDERS REPORT- Richard Little**

- Rich will be a presenter at the Insights into Gardening
- He has found a supplier in Washington who will sell him a new type of bee house for \$20 and we would sell it for \$40 in addition to other types of bee houses that have been sold in the past at the various events with Spineless Wonders presentations including the Insights into Gardening event.
- Rich indicated that he needed help building more bee boxes. Susan Morton, Rane Webb and Dave Krieger offered to get bee boxes built. Rich will get plans to all of them.
- Rich hopes to sell some bee houses this year with bees. He was able to harvest quite a few bees this past year.

#### **MG Membership Meetings- Sharon Richards**

- The next three membership meetings will be at the Albany Public Library:
- January 13 – Italian Renaissance Gardens by Susan Morton and Susan Glaser
- February 10- Care and Growing Roses by Katherine Johnson- Portland Rose Society
- March 3- Use of Stone in Gardens by a Pacific Stone representative.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ranee Webb, Secretary