

**Benton County Master Gardener Association**  
**Board Meeting – March 14, 2022**  
**3:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

**Attending:**

Jana Tindall, Janet Magedanz, Deb Kern, Wendi Gale, Cynthia Roler, Lynn Trimpe, Paula Lupcho, Deborah Hobbs, Rich Taylor, David Mandel, Bob Smythe, Fred Prahl, Alan Taylor, Elizabeth Records

The meeting was called to order by President Jana Tindall at 3:00pm.

**Gardening Moment:**

- Deb K noted her lime tree (indoors) has started to bloom and Lynn T has lemons on her lemon tree! Both very fragrant and delightful to have.

**Minutes:** The minutes for the December Board meeting were unanimously approved as amended following a motion by Paula Lupcho, second Lynn Trimpe

**Treasurer's Report**

Paula Lupcho/Lynn Trimpe

February Financials

Assets: 78,169.53

CDs: 112,916.26

Total assets: 191,085.79

-Approve Revised End of Year Report 2021 - accepted

-Approve Expensing Purchase of Laptop from Tech Fund- accepted

-Approve Expensing Internet Mobile Charges from Farmer's Market and Board Discretionary  
After discussion -the decision made to have the hotspot and the "tech cell service" all from tech fund

**Friends of Benton Gardeners Donation**

From the treasurer – plan to zero out the donation money from the account, with the intent of using the money for demo garden projects and special allocations projects. Jana will inform committee chairs of the availability of the funds.

**President Report**

Jana Tindall

Approve donation to Empty Bowls – donation to Empty Bowls of a gift certificate for free registration to the Mini College (\$45) through the OSU Foundation - donation approved unanimously after motion by Janet M and seconded Paula L.

Future meetings- discussion of format of future meeting. In person is planned for the future (no date set) and continuation of ad hoc committee to define the hybrid meetings format to allow both in person and zoom participation. Further information from the ad hoc committee at next meeting.

BCMGA Zoom Account- the "freebie" version of the zoom account not being utilized.  
Discussion and agreement to eliminate the account.

OMGA Awards—Marje Luce Search for Excellence

Jana will forward information to committee chairs for nominations. The OMGA website has the information criteria and application. Detail information will come from the OMGA.

### **OMGA Awards—MG of the Year/Behind the Scenes**

**Deborah Hobbs**

Information will go out in the Extension email and the President's newsletter for nominations. Deadline the first part of April (prior to BCMGA meeting) so the board can make a decision on submission prior to the OMGA deadline.

### **Policy & Procedure Change—Membership Proposed Policy & Procedures Revision**

**Paula Lupcho**

On the recommendation of the ad hoc Membership Policy Committee, it is moved that the word "Program" be removed from Policy 6.2.1 defining the criteria for active membership in the association and be replaced with "Benton County Master Gardener Association".

Upon approval of this motion, policy 6.2.1 shall read:

#### **6.2 Membership Classification & Regulations**

6.2.1 Active: Active membership in the association is limited to those persons who have successfully completed the Master Gardener training program, have successfully completed the payback hours, have paid the annual dues, and remain in good standing in Benton County Master Gardener Association. (Good standing is defined as being in compliance with the policies and procedures of the association.)

Rationale for revision: This change will align BCMGA policy with the MOA between OSU and OMGA.

Discussion: Noted that non certified members of the BCMGA are unable to present educational events, but can participate in "work" projects

The policy change on membership is to bring our BCMGA policy in line with OMGA, not OSU. The latter is something that will be to be addressed with OMGA.

Rich T. will bring the Board comments and concerns of alignment with OSU requirements to the next OMGA meeting for discussion.

Motion made to adopt the changes made to the policy by Alan T. and seconded by Deborah H. - approved unanimously.

### **BCMGA Website**

**Rich Taylor**

Extension plan to conduct survey to see how members and public want to get information re gardening. Discussion of who to survey and what database to use. Elizabeth has some new raw data that she can present and update members at next meeting.

### **Mentor Training**

**Alan Taylor**

Discussion of using conference room at Extension- pairing mentor/trainee.

Education of all mentors and trainees on the **Extension Client Contact Online (ECCO)** program, the new database system for the plant clinic. G-mail is proposed as a better means of synchronizing questions and answers whether handled by MGs and/or trainees working at the help desk or online.

Mentors expand on trainees education and provide extra guidance. May be an on-line relationship.

**Extension Report**

Elizabeth Records

- Public health updates and OSU policies- will be updated, no need for BCMGA special policies
- Training launched - reminders and logistics for garden lab instructors. Quick start volunteer opportunities shared.
- Yasmine Rifai, office support, has taken a new job. Elizabeth may need help wrangling gear for labs
- Now available to audit for CE - MGVI training online courses. See e-news email to enroll
- New contact for Seed to Supper: Tyler Spofford ([spoffort@oregonstate.edu](mailto:spoffort@oregonstate.edu)) new OSU Food Hero employee. Transfer of program from OFB to OSU is in progress

**Good of the Association**

All

No items

The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 pm

Submitted Cynthia Roler, secretary 3/21/22