

**Benton County Master Gardener Association  
Board Meeting – April 12, 2021**

**Zoom Meeting  
9:00 am – 11:00 am**

**In attendance:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bob Smythe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paula Lupcho	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deborah Hobbs	<input type="checkbox"/> Pashalle Johnson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marge Alig	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nancy Tovar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Mandel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deb Kern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Garcia
<input type="checkbox"/> Diana Allen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debra Garley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alan Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jana Tindall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lynn Trimpe
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elizabeth Records		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brooke Edmunds		

Guests: Kathy Clark, Leslie Hauser

By unanimous consent, Paula Lupcho was select to be secretary *pro tem*.

President Deb Kern called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

**Gardening Moment** All

Nancy Tovar spread 26 yards of mulch on Sunday and is feeling the effort in her back today.

**Adopt March Minutes**

- **It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to adopt the March minutes as presented.**

**Officer Reports**

**Treasurer**

- **It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to allow the treasurer to reimburse Lisa Borgerson \$59 for a bill incurred in October, 2020, that had not been turned into the association within the 120-day time limit.** Board approval is required for all outstanding reimbursements. The reimbursement will be charged to this year's Plant Sale Committee budget.
- Marge Alig gave a summary of the March checkbooks (2) and expense summary. On March 19, Marge opened a new BCMGA checking account at Oregon State Credit Union. There are two checkbooks showing the activities for the association's current account at First Tech Federal Credit Union and the new account at OSCU. Marge will close out the First Tech account in April, and all further business will be conducted at OSCU.
- The Financial Summary will be sent out shortly.

**Extension Report**

- Elizabeth Records reported that an online vegetable growing program is being developed in a joint effort with Linn County.
- Elizabeth encouraged MG volunteers to work with the online desk. More people are needed and training or refresher training is available.

- Brooke informed us that Benton is still in the high-risk category and all projects need approval through the extension office.

#### President

- Deb Kern will not be able to attend Mini College this year. She recommended that Nancy Tovar as Past President take her place to represent BCMGA. **It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously that Nancy's tuition (\$49) will be reimbursed in lieu of Deb Kern's.**
- Mini College tuition reimbursements were discussed (who is eligible according to BCMGA policy). There was a brief discussion about offering scholarship, however, this topic will be held over until the May meeting.

#### Vice President

- Alan Taylor let the board know that April's speaker will be Nicole Sanchez (Associate Professor-Practice, So. Oregon). She will discuss houseplants. In May, Jessica Rendon, ODA entomologist, will speak on invasive insects.
- No summer events have been scheduled. However, the September picnic is considered a social event, not an extension event. Alan will look for a suitable venue in case risk levels change, and we can hold this event.
- The fairgrounds facility has already been reserved for the Greens Party, again, just in case.

#### President Elect

- President Elect Jana Tindall completed the OMGA Search for Excellence application on behalf of the *Seed to Supper @ Home* online program that was developed by members of the CGET committee. **It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously that the board approve the application so that it can be sent on to Brooke Edmunds for Extension approval, then to be forwarded to OMGA for consideration.** (It was noted that there has been interest from within Oregon and from several other states about using this program.)

#### Membership

- Applications for Benton County Master Gardener of the Year and Benton County Behind the Scenes awards were sent out to chairs and the board. It was recommended that these be shared with the entire membership. The deadline for submission to OMGA is May 15. The decision will be made at the May board meeting.

#### Proposed new project

- President Deb Kern shared with the board the application to formally adopt the Children's Home Farm School Garden as a BCMGA approved project. The school already has developed facilities and faculty that will oversee the daily administration and oversight. Master Gardener involvement will be educational by assisting the staff to develop program, offer advice, and help troubleshoot gardening problems when they

arrive. Deb Kern, Glen Canning, Deborah Hobbs, and Debra Garley will serve on the committee.

- **It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the project.**
- **It was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve \$50 from Board Discretionary funds for use by this committee.**

The project application will be forwarded to extension for approval.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Plant Sale**

- Rich Taylor that the online dahlia sale went live over the weekend. Subsequent online sales will be vegetables and then native plants. Dahlias have brought in \$1200 with 42 sales. It was suggested that it be re-advertised in social media. Kathy Clark, plant sale chair, thanked everyone who helped get the online sale launched. It was a big effort.
- Kathy Clark presented a proposal from a new non-profit group, Friends of Benton Gardeners (FBG). FBG would like to contract with BCMGA to act as their agent to hold in-person plant sales. FBG would retain 10% of sales; BCMGA would receive 90%. After discussion, the board asked to see the group's bylaws, which Kathy Clark will forward to BCMGA. The issue will be taken up either at the May board meeting or at an extraordinary board meeting if time becomes an issue.

### **Greenhouse Committee**

- Nancy Tovar reported that she, Debbie Lauer, and Paula Lupcho met with Bill Mayer (President of the Scout Lodge Board) to discuss two possible sites for a future BCMGA greenhouse facility. The first is at the Philomath Scout Lodge. The Millpond Site is close by on 140 acres owned by Bill Mayer and will be developed as mixed housing including a senior living facility. The Millpond development will begin next spring. The Scout Lodge is .6 acres and available for lease only. Millpond could be up to 1-acre with a lease to own option. The board would like more information on infrastructure and site preparation costs.

### **Communications Committee**

- Deb Kern welcomed Frank Garcia as the newest member of this committee. Marge Alig, who is leaving the committee, was thanked for her service and contributions.
- One issue that was discussed was dissatisfaction with Sign-Up Genius. One idea is to have our own association sign-up application. More information is needed on costs and various options. David Mandel will look into this. Elizabeth has information on what other counties are using. She also said that committees can still use the extension subscription. There is a form for committee chairs to fill out when requesting sign-up schedules.
- The question about copier use was brought up. With arrangements, it is possible for Yasmin (Extension Office Staff member) to do some copying. She works from 10-12 on

Tuesdays and Thursday. Brooke also said that special arrangements may be possible. She is willing to work with committees on this.

### **Seed to Supper**

- Frank Garcia reported that the first *Seed to Supper at Home* class of 2021 was conducted on March 9, 11, 16 and 18, and it was very successful.
- A CGET planning meeting was held on April 8, 2021. The three *Seed to Supper* in person Garden classes planned at the OSU-Champinefu Lodge, Calvin Community Garden in English and Calvin Community Garden in Spanish will not be done due to COVID-19 restrictions. Plans are being developed to conduct a second *Seed to Supper @ Home* Series that will begin in late April or May
- Several new gardening videos are being developed to support learning, reach a broader audience and address *Seed to Supper at Home* participant feedback. These videos could support Ask a Master Gardener or What's Happening in the Garden this Month sessions. The videos will be available for public viewing on YouTube.

### **Hope Grows Here**

- Deborah Hobbs reported that the first class was held last week.

### **Good of the Association**

- Please send any additions or corrections of the minutes to Paula Lupcho.

**Meeting was adjourned at 11:00.**

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Paula Lupcho, Secretary *pro tem*