

Benton County Master Gardeners Association Board Meeting
November 14, 2022

Called to order by President Jana Tindall @ 3:00

Attending: Brenda Bye, Catherine Feher, Deborah Hobbs, Deb Kern, Rich Little, Paula Lucpho, Janet Magedanz, David Mandel, Mary Mellard, Fred Prah, Elizabeth Records, Bob Smythe, Rich Taylor, Jana Tindall, Nancy Tovar, Lynn Trimpe

Paula Lupcho was unanimously elected to be secretary *pro tem* for the meeting.

Minutes of the October meeting: Motion to approve as amended by Paula Lupcho and seconded by Deb Kern. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes of the Annual Membership meeting on October 24, 2022. Motion to approve the minutes as read by Paula Lupcho and seconded by Rich Taylor passed unanimously.

New BCMGA logo and motto: Nancy Tovar presented the logos that she developed based on input from various members. After discussion, the “roots” logo was most popular due to simplicity of design. The discussion about the motto elicited concerns that ranged from the wording to not having a motto on the logo at all. This matter will be on the December agenda.

Treasurers’ Report:

Motion by Paula Lupcho and seconded by Janet Magedanz to rollover the maturing CD on November 19 at 4.10% interest. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report

- Checking account balance: \$82,613.21
- Savings account balance: \$698.31
- Total assets and liabilities: \$222,196.22

Membership renewal report: 75% of continuing MGs have renewed, 38% of trainees have renewed, 5 out of 6 associates have renewed

Policy and Procedures Revision

Paula moved to revise the policy on Mini College reimbursement to more accurately reflect current Mini College programming. It was seconded by Lynn Trimpe. BCMGA award winners will be reimbursed up to \$150 raising the amount from \$100. The limit on funding for a Benton MG nominated for state awards will be left open. Motion pass unanimously. See attachment for complete wording of this policy.

OMGA Report: Rich Taylor reported that OMGA will be raising dues for 2024. Gail Langelotto is recommending a new OMGA award that will recognize MG efforts toward diversity, equity, and inclusion. Gail will fund this award. MG chapters are asked to develop an activity for a Day of Service on Martin Luther King Day. It should emphasis diversity, equity, and inclusion. Planning for Mini College will begin next month when the committee will meet for the first time to plan for 2023. Mini College will be held in Corvallis at La Sells Stewart. Rich also reported on the new recertification requirement for next year that will require MGs to include 1 hour of continuing education that is devoted to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Four videos will be available. This would be part of the 10 continuing education hours already required. It was suggested that one session at Mini College offer this option. Rich will report this to the OMGA board.

President's Report:

- December BOD meeting: The meeting will be from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 with a lunch break between the morning and afternoon sessions. Bring your own lunch. Jana will see if the Sunset Room is available.
- There was a discussion about special event plant clinics and the viability of continuing this activity. Currently, this activity lacks leadership and volunteers. The consensus of the board was to leave this option open, advertise this option to the membership as "Plant Clinic-Special Events", and see if there is interest. The Farmers Market committee will be identified as "Plant Clinic-Farmers Market".
- Next Tuesday is Giving Tuesday and Nicole was advertising this for 4-H. She wondered if our website had a donation feature. Currently we do not. Rich Taylor and Paula Lupcho will investigate options for online donations.
- Inactive committees: There was board consensus that inactive committees should be removed from our committee list.

Vice President Report: The Greens Party will be held at Guerber Hall (Fairgrounds) on Tuesday, Dec. 6, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Plant Problem Scenario: Deb Kern reported that PPS is back for next year's training. It will be held every Thursday. Committee chairs will be invited to attend to give a brief description of that committee's activities. Each PPS session will conclude with a meet & greet. These sessions will be in the Sunset Room.

Extension Report: Elizabeth Records

- The awards/graduation celebration will be Saturday, Nov. 19 from 2-4 at the Electrical Training Center in Tangent
- MG renewal—194 MGs from Benton and Linn Counties have sent in their documents and 84 MGs have recertified.
- Enrollment for 2023 MG training is now open. Training will once again be a hybrid of online modules and in-person garden labs.
- Meet and Greets: Continuing MGs are invited to attend these in order to meet the applicants for training. These will occur on Wed., Jan. 4 (5:30-6:30 p.m.), Fri., Jan. 6 (12:00-1:00 pm.), Sat., Jan. 7 (10-11 a.m.)

Gardening Moment: Deborah Hobbs said that the drying beans in Demo Garden haven't been drying. Jana reported that early snow damaged one of her Japanese maples. Rich grew Jerusalem artichokes this year and it is getting close to digging them up.

Good of the Association: Janet Magedanz announced that Gearing up for Gardening will be back in 2023 and that Rich Taylor is trying to resurrect the past GUFG recorded lectures that were lost when OSU overhauled Extension's websites. Mary Mellard also has CDs of earlier GUFG presentation. David Mandel will try to convert the CD's to another format. These will be a great education resource for members and will be on our website once completed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35.

Paula Lupcho, Secretary *pro tem*

Changes to Mini-College Reimbursement Policy
Approved November 14, 2022

2.9.2.1 Mini-College:

- President, President-Elect & OMGA Rep may be reimbursed up to \$200 for expenses related to Mini College attendance. This may include registration, lodging, banquet, breakfast, and mileage at the OMGA rate.
- Scholarship Recipients shall be reimbursed for 1- or 2-day registration and 2 lunches at \$10 per day for lunch if lunch is not included in the registration fee. Recipients may elect to attend only 1 day. The Board shall determine the number of scholarships to be offered
- BCMGA recipients of the Benton County MG of the Year, Benton County Behind the Scenes, and the SFE Award may be reimbursed up to \$150 for expenses related to Mini College attendance.
- Nominees for OMGA MG of the Year and OMGA Behind the Scenes may be reimbursed for expenses related to attendance at Mini College, including the awards banquet with 1 optional guest.