

**Benton County Master Gardener Association
Board Meeting – May 10, 2021**

**Zoom Meeting
6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

In attendance:

Board: Marge Alig, Frank Garcia, Deborah Hobbs, Pashalle Johnson, Deb Kern, Paula Lupcho, David Mandel, Bob Smythe, Alan Taylor, Rich Taylor, Jana Tindall, Nancy Tovar, Lynne Trimpe

Extension: Brooke Edmunds, Elizabeth Records

Guests: Christina Clark, Kathy Clark, Jill Farrow

By unanimous consent, Paula Lupcho was selected as secretary *pro tem* for all future meetings until Secretary Diana Allen can resume her duties.

President Deb Kern called the meeting to order at 6:02.

Gardening Moment: Several members have reported lots of bird activity. Song birds have been heard including tanagers.

Adopt May Minutes: It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to adopt the May minutes as presented.

Officer Reports

Treasurer

- **It was moved, seconded and passed unanimously to rollover CD #5212 for 12 months.** The current value is \$20,206.55 and is not dedicated to the Greenhouse Capital Fund.
- Marge presented 2 checkbooks for the month which reflected the move to another banking institution. On April 14, the BCMGA checking and savings accounts were closed at First Tech Federal Credit Union and all money was transferred into the checking and savings accounts at Oregon State Credit Union.
 - The new savings account will serve a different function at OSCU. The savings account will be the receiving account for all ACH transactions. These funds can then be transferred into the checking account.
- Because of the complications created by having 2 banking accounts, the Financial Summary couldn't be prepared in its usual format. Marge present the Expense Summary for board review.

Vice President

- Alan Taylor informed the board that Dr. Jessica Rendon, Entomologist and Japanese Beetle Eradication Specialist for the ODA, will speak at the next membership meeting on May 17. Her topic will be Invasive Insects.
- The September Picnic on Sept. 20 may go forward. It is considered a social event by OSU, therefore doesn't fall under OSU meeting restrictions. Alan is looking at the Randy Kubler Park in Philomath as the location as it has both indoor and outdoor facilities. It will be a bring-your-own food event (no potluck). Social distancing will be observed. Alan will ask Dale Collins to help with the scheduling arrangements with the City of Philomath.

Membership Secretary

- One submission was received for Master Gardener of the Year. The nomination was to recognize the team of members who put great effort into making the on-line plants sales run efficiently and effectively. It was very much a team effort and required the talents and expertise of each member. The nominees are Lisa Borgerson, Jill Farrow, Leslie Hauser, Deborah Kern, and Rich Taylor. **It was moved, seconded and passed to name the Online Sales Team as Master Gardener of the Year.** There was one abstention.

Extension Report

- **Elizabeth Records**
 - Thank you to Deb Kern and Tessa Hansen for handling desk questions.
 - OSU is changing meeting policy for vaccinated students but not yet for volunteers.
 - MG of the Year form needs to get to Brooke ASAP
 - Thanks to everyone for their patience during a problem with SignUp Genius and thanks for going through the office with new activity requests
- **Brooke Edmunds**
 - Brooke would like more clarification about the separation of activities within OSU guidelines between BCMGA Plant Sale and Friends of Benton Gardeners (FBG). There was extensive discussion.
 - Deb Kern asked if BCMGA anticipated future contracted sales. The consensus was that BCMGA would return to in-person sales when possible to do so.
 - Questions arose about MG hours and what would extension accept. BCMGA members suggested that all hours spent in preparing the plants for transfer to FBG should be MG hours.
 - A beginning and end date should be added to the agreements with FBG.

Greenhouse Committee

- Nancy Tovar shared the OBC quote for a greenhouse with mechanical equipment and furnishings.

- Bill Meyer quoted the committee a monthly lease price of 2-4 cents per square foot of land. The monthly lease for 1 acre would be \$871.20 to \$1742.40 based on the psf rate. Bill would sink the well and level the site. There would be shared parking with another facility.
- The committee needs to calculate costs.

Philomath Greenhouse: There is an issue with blackberry bushes. Kathy Clark would like a maintenance committee to tackle this. The high school was supposed to do it but didn't. Discussion was postponed to future meeting.

Board Resignation

- Debra Garley has resigned her position as member at large.
- President Deb Kern, with the approval of the board, will ask Jill Farrow to fill this position.

Items for next board meeting

1. Look at Philomath High School Greenhouse maintenance.
2. Future greenhouse maintenance costs, plus manpower, plus training.
3. SignUp Genius: David Mandel will report on the wisdom of having our own account.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Paula Lupcho
Secretary pro tem