



## Master Gardener Foundation of Thurston County Board Meeting Minutes: May 13, 2015

The May meeting was held at the WSU Thurston County Extension Office and called to order by Kaleen Cottingham at 5:35 p.m.

**Present:** Board members Kaleen Cottingham, vice president; Sandy Atkinson, state representative; Linda Talen, treasurer; Devi Watson, member-at-large; and Cindy Morana, secretary. Also present were Cori Carlton, program manager and Suzannah Klaniecki, AmeriCorps volunteer.

**1. Approval of minutes.** Corrections were made to the program report in the April 14 board minutes. Sandy moved to adopt the amended minutes; Linda seconded. The board minutes were adopted as amended. Linda moved to adopt the April 21 membership meeting minutes; Sandy seconded. The membership minutes were adopted.

### **2. Treasurer's report.**

YTD income: \$2112.15

YTD expenses: \$9359.37

Current assets: \$73,477.64

Linda reviewed her report. Cash flow is as usual just prior to plant sale. Linda has resolved the outstanding reimbursement request from Bob Findlay for last year's expense. Back-up generators and credit card hand-swiper will be available at the plant sale. Sandy moved adoption on the Treasurer's report with the date changed to indicate April; Devi seconded. The Treasurer's report was adopted as amended.

### **3. Committees and Reports**

**A. Nominations.** Kaleen reported that she and Cindy M have recruited Charley Barron to run for vice president next term. Julie is working on recruiting the next treasurer-elect candidate. Devi will assist in identifying possible candidates for the next member-at-large, since she announced she will not seek a second term.

**B. State Foundation.** Sandy reported that many other counties were not interested in the state questionnaire, but Sandy, et.al., have suggested it would be useful. George is considering it. Regarding the education conference, table prices have been reduced. We do not currently have nominations for the Van Bobbit scholarship. Regarding awards, please see New Business, below.

**C. Publicity.** A publicity chair and committee members are needed. We discussed advertising these opportunities among our membership. Board members suggested inviting Penny and Nancy to our next meeting to discuss how we might do that.

**D. Plant Sale.** SPSCC has provided some plants for our sale. The person delivering the plants wondered why we were not providing a scholarship to SPSCC anymore, and that is because the SPSCC horticulture program has been discontinued.

**4. June Board meeting.** Several members cannot attend on June 10. All agreed Julie should look for an alternate date via email. One suggestion might be to meet just prior to the June 16 membership meeting – Devi will check to see if the room is available.

## **5. Program Report.**

- A. Suzannah advised we did not win the Peeps diorama contest, but it was a good informational opportunity to have it in the library. Regarding her workshops, 10 attended the Botany class and about 21 attended her workshop on disease pathology. Her next class is May 30, at Dirt Works, on apartment/small scale gardening. Then, June 24 at 6:30, also at Dirt Works, she will lead a workshop on utilizing a self-watering tomato bucket. Reservations are needed for both upcoming workshops.
- B. Cori noted there have been an unusually large number of outreach workshops this month, so many opportunities that we have had to pick and choose. We have been notified that we will not have an AmeriCorps volunteer for 2015-16. Suzannah noted there may be other venues to receive an AmeriCorps person, but if that does not come together, Cori will have to work out another plan.
- C. Cori met with the City of Olympia about our relationship with Dirt Works. Instead of an MOU, they want a lease to cover Dirt Works, which would eliminate the need for zoning procedures. Cori will check with WSU regarding whether a lease is acceptable.
- D. Cori is also working on an MOU for the structure and garden at the Olympia Farmer's Market, although it will be delayed until after the MG training is completed.
- E. The MOU between the Foundation and Thurston County Extension is nearly final and will be submitted to WSU and the County, also after the MG training is completed.

## **6. New Business.**

- A. **MG of the Year Award** nominations and process were discussed. Kaleen will follow up with Julie.
- B. **Fundraising opportunity.** Sandy will research Limeberry and how it aligns with our organization's goals and values. She will report back at our next meeting to see whether we should participate in their rewards program.

## **7. Old Business.**

- A. **Charter with the State Foundation.** Sandy moved and Devi seconded a motion that once the MOU between the foundation and WSU Thurston County Extension is finalized and signed, the board authorizes Julie to sign charter with the State Foundation. The motion was adopted.
- B. **Bylaws.** We may be out of sync with bylaws requirements for the president-elect and president terms. Kaleen will consider ways to address this conundrum and will report back.
- C. **Policies and Procedures.** Devi is working with Roy to post the updated sections of the handbook online and will date each section on the website for future reference.

**6. Membership meeting June 16.** Devi will provide details for the announcement to the membership. Diane Stanger has agreed to send out that announcement, including notice of the vote on the bylaws.

**7. Adjourn.** The meeting was adjourned shortly after 7:00 pm.