



Master Gardener Foundation of Thurston County

Board Meeting Minutes, October 14, 2015

The meeting was held at WSU Thurston County Extension and called to order by President Julie Sandberg at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Board members Julie Sandberg, president; Cindy Hoover, president-elect; Linda Talen, treasurer; Sandy Atkinson, state representative; Kaleen Cottingham, vice president; Laura Westrup, secretary; Cori Carlton, program coordinator. Guests present: Candace Jacobs, Kerry Norem

Minutes

Kaleen moved and Sandy seconded to accept the September board meeting minutes as amended by Cori and Julie. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report as of September 30, 2015

YTD Income \$28,879.10 YTD Expenses \$24,056.23 Current Assets \$85,547.37

The fall plant sale made over \$2,000 from the sale of plants. More details at the next board meeting. Kaleen moved and Sandy seconded to accept the treasurer's report. Motion Carried

State Foundation Report

Sandy brought a written report, but she highlighted a few things:

The raffle at state conference brought in \$3,046 – last year was \$2560. These dollars go to the state foundation. The silent auction income goes to the sponsoring county. The state board will meet on Oct. 23 in Puyallup. One of the items on the agenda will be the issue of no host for the conference in 2016. Sandy will be actively involved with this topic. There will be regional educational opportunities available to MGs throughout the state, however. Grays Harbor/Pacific counties are considering hosting the 2017 state conference. The International Conference will be in Portland in July 2017.

Property Donation

A MG intern has offered to donate property in Tumwater to the Foundation with the vision of using it for workshops, demo gardens, etc. He is working with an attorney. Julie has spoken with representatives from WSU who state that there needs to be funds to cover operations and maintenance to go along with the property. They are willing to come down from Seattle to visit with us and give us more information and ask questions of the donor, and possibly the donor's attorney.

Committee Reports:

Retail: Kerry Norem has long sleeved denim shirts with the logo. She mentioned the possibility of selling paperwhites or amaryllis bulbs, but there wouldn't be many Foundation activities before the end of the year.

Website: Bev Postman and Roy have been doing very well getting things posted on the web. The picture of the stolen toolbox has not been posted as yet. Cori has notified the police department about the many thefts we have had from Dirtworks.

Awards Dinner, Nov. 19. City Picnics will be the food service provider. It will be at Heritage Hall at the Fairgrounds, 6 p.m. Cori needs help setting up starting at 4 p.m. The board reviewed the nominations for Foundation Awards for the following: Fundraising, Advocacy, and Service

Annual Meeting, Dec. 8.

Julie queried the board about the possibility of giving foundation members a flower pot mug with MG, TC, and WSU logos on it. Kaleen moved to authorize Julie to spend up to \$850 for a recognition gift for foundation members at the awards dinner. Motion Carried.

Board Retreat

Next Wednesday at the extension office to set goals for 2016 and set meeting dates. Dinner will be provided. Committee chairs will be invited. 4:30 p.m.

Program Report

Cori attended the Cluster Meeting last week. Feb 11, June 9, and Oct. 6. will be the meeting dates for next year. She is scheduling office work parties and 6 volunteers showed up yesterday. It was quite successful and much was accomplished. Three volunteers are helping with MRC training as well. MRC training is in full swing with class 4 coming up. Sunday is the last major outreach event at Yelm Farmers Market. 2016 MG information needs to be advertised – press releases, etc., to the community. Julie will check with Rita Gallerani to see if she can assist Cori with promoting the new MG class. The demo gardens will be closing the end of October, so she is attempting to get the interns' hours completed. She reminded board members to get their hours up to date. Cori met with the plant sale committee and DW committee regarding the break ins. The Olympia Police Department and City of Olympia will meet with Cori and the board sometime this winter. The people living in the apartments nearby are calling the police if they see lights.

Last meeting's discussion regarding how the foundation can help Cori since she doesn't have an AmeriCorps person is being put on hold as she needs to become familiar with Blackboard which is the online resource from WSU for online courses.

Budget Setting Meeting – Nov. 21, 10 am. Julie's home

Julie will query the committee chairs regarding any change in budget needs. Cori will check with garden committees. Cori is also getting more information on a computerized tracking system for volunteers (Cervis).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Hoover
Secretary Pro Tem

