

**The Whatcom County Master Gardener Foundation
Board Minutes May 3rd, 2018**

Attended by: President - Harriet Arkley, 1st VP - Barbara King, 2nd VP - Barbara Schickler, Treasurer - Marilyn Glenn, Secretary – Kathy Barrett, Members at Large – Linda Bobblett, Shelley Fishwild, Victor Knox, Mill Shires, Bonnie LeVan, State Representative – Sandy Keathley and Program Coordinator – Beth Chisholm.

Unable to Attend: Member at Large - Louise Granger

Meeting was called to order by Harriet Arkley at 10:05 am.

Approval of the Minutes

Kathy Barrett made a motion that the minutes for April 5th, 2018 be approved and Marilyn Glenn seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved by the Board.

Treasurer's Report

Marilyn Glenn submitted the **Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual** reports for **May 1st, 2018**.

Checking	\$1557.00
Savings`	\$45,680.00
Greenhouse	\$13,142.00
Total available money	\$60,379.00

A motion was made by Barbara King and seconded by Bonnie LeVan to approve the May 1st, 2018 budget and the Board gave unanimous approval.

Old Business

MG Meetings/Event Schedule 2018

Barbara Schickler and Marilyn Glenn continue to work on advertising for upcoming events.

Action Item: Barbara Schickler will get information to Barbara King regarding the Whidbey Island carpool trip for the Event Flyer.

Bylaw Changes

Mill Shires reported that the committee is currently working on the officer section of the Bylaws. The committee has suggested that the Bylaws could

be more generic in descriptions and that more details could be put into a manual.

Action Item: Mill will prepare for a 30-minute discussion on Bylaws at the next Board meeting, June 7th, 2018.

Signage Update

Linda Boblett reported that a cost analysis was done comparing wood signs with metal signs for 12 demonstration gardens at Roeder Home and Hovander. Wooden signs would cost \$100.00 per square foot, while metal signs would cost \$16.00 per square foot. The cost of twelve 3' x 1' wooden signs would cost \$3600.00 and the same in metal would cost \$576.00. the Board was in favor of the metal signs. It was also stressed that the signs be uniform in style.

Marilyn Glenn made a motion that the Board approve the purchase of 12 metal signs, pending approval of a mock-up by Signs Plus. Sandy Keathley seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Action Item: Linda Boblett will meet with the garden leaders to finalize the sign format and get a mock-up from Signs Plus.

Community Outreach

Marilyn Glenn made a point of thanking Barbara King for her efforts in developing an Events Flyer. The flyer will cover events for two months at a time. The flyer will be available at Ask a Master Gardener, Farmer's Markets and other public events.

Marilyn also made a plea to all Board members to sign up for at least one outreach event. She also reported that the committee is working on updating a much-needed MG Program brochure.

Action Item: Marilyn Glenn will meet with Beth Chisholm about getting the Events Flyer into the Weeder's Digest.

Action Item: Mill with share info from the Foundation's Facebook account with other means of social media.

New Greenhouse Usage Update

Vic Knox reported that the new greenhouse has been very busy with Plant Sale efforts. Every surface is being used to grow tomatoes, veggies, herbs and flowers. Volunteers are in the greenhouse every day.

Revision of Foundation Website

Nothing to report at this time.

Hovander and Roeder Outreach

Peg Nathan will be recruiting MGs as docents for the **Ask a Master Gardener** events at Hovander from June thru August. They will tentatively be held on Saturdays from Noon to 2:00 PM.

Shelly Fishwild announced that the “**How to Restore Your Old Urban Garden**” talk and House Tour will be held at the Roeder Home on Saturday, June 23rd, the time to be announced.

Action Item: Harriet will advertise the Tour/Talk event at the Roeder Home.

Action Item: Barbara King will add the Hovander and Roeder events to the Events Flyer.

Plant Sale Meeting

Harriet reported that of the 80 Plant Sale signs, 70 had been taken by MGs and were currently in use. Marilyn Johnson has done a wonderful job of distributing and tracking the signs. Marilyn has also placed ads for the Plant Sale in Entertainment News NW and Cascadia Weekly.

Marilyn Glenn expressed her concern regarding the fact that the Plant Sale relies so much on Karen Gilliam for plants and this makes us vulnerable.

Other organizations also hold plant sales at this time of year and this is another area of concern going forward. It was suggested that these factors be discussed after the Plant Sale and be a Retreat topic.

Foundation Calendar

Harriet distributed the revised Foundation Calendar.

New Business

State Foundation Report

Sandy reported that the MG State Conference for 2018 will be held in Wenatchee from September 26 – 29. County host applications for the 2019 conference are being accepted now. In 2020 the conference will state hosted.

Sandy would like to encourage other MGs to attend the on-line state meetings with her.

Action Items: Sandy will notify the membership of the opportunity for a few other MGs to attend on-line state meetings with her. She will talk to Beth about putting a notice in the Weeder's Digest.

Program Update

Beth Chisholm reported that 22 Master Composter students have completed their course, and some are working at the compost site at Hovander.

Beth will attend the State MG Coordinators Conference in Wenatchee, June 19 - 20. The coordinators will be looking at the pluses and negatives of the MG programs statewide.

The Whatcom County Regional Park Manager has quit, and Jill Jacobi will be filling in and will be our Park contact.

Beth also reported that she will be working on grant writing this summer for the program. One of her grants will be expiring soon and this has become a priority for her.

Skagit County will be hosting an **Advanced Training Meeting** in October 2018. Linda Chalker Scott will be the guest speaker. An exact date has not yet been set.

Beth is considering a Whatcom County Advanced Training Meeting for the fall of 2018.

A list of potential MG students for the 2019 Master Gardener training class has been started.

Beth has begun a list of potential MG students for the 2019 class.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 7th, 2018 @ Extension Office