

Whatcom County Master Gardener Foundation Board Meeting Minutes July 5, 2018

Attended by: President - Harriet Arkley, 1st VP - Barbara King, 2nd VP - Barbara Schickler, Treasurer - Marilyn Glenn, Members at Large ' Linda Bobblett, Shelley Fishwild, Louise Granger, Victor Knox, Mill Shires, Bonnie LeVan.

Unable to Attend: Secretary - Kathy Barrett, State Representative - Sandy Keathley, Program Coordinator - Beth Chisholm.

Meeting was called to order by Harriet Arkley at 10:00 a.m.

The President requested a Director volunteer to record minutes, which Louise Granger accepted.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion by Shelly Fishwild and seconded by Barbara King asked for approval of the Minutes of the June 7, 2018 board meeting without corrections. It was approved by a unanimous board vote.

Treasurer's Report

Marilyn Glenn submitted the **Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual** reports as of 7/3/2018.

Checking \$9073.00

Savings \$54818.00

Greenhouse \$13172.00

Total Available \$77063.00

Foundation Endowment \$36633.00

A motion by Mill Shires, seconded by Barbara Schickler asked for approval of this Treasurer's Report without corrections. It was approved by a unanimous board vote.

Old Business

Bylaw Changes

Mill Shires presented Articles IV, III and VI. Sections of potential change are as follows Article IV, Board of Directors, regards Director term lengths in years and subsequent number of terms. Article III, Membership, regards who are MGF members. Article VI, Election and Recalls, regards Proxy Votes. Discussion ensued. Marilyn suggested a Membership Committee position on the board.

Action Item: Mill asked that the Directors email him their thoughts for discussion by the next Bylaws Committee meeting on July 16. He will give a Bylaws report at the August 2nd Board meeting.

MG Meetings/Events

Barbara Schickler reported on the June 14th tour of Ten Fold Farm and Triple Wren Farm. Coming up on Thursday July 19 is a carpool tour to Whidbey Isl. to Crescent Harbor School Farm, the Island MG Demonstration Garden, and a tour of the garden of John Bachert. Thursday August 9th at noon is “All Things Dahlia”, a presentation by Gretchen Kulpa at the Extension Office.

Greenhouse Update

Vic Knox reported the growth of young plants for demonstration purposes. There was discussion regarding the greenhouse and the Ask A Master Gardener Saturdays at Hovander.

Signage Update

Linda Boblett reports that the mock ups for gardens’ identification at Hovander is complete and awaiting approval by Beth today. Funding has already been approved and signs will be created by Signs Plus.

Community Outreach Update

Marilyn Glenn and Barbara King are planning a new Master Gardener Program brochure. A meeting is set for Thursday July 12 at the Extension Office meeting room.

Hovander and Roeder Outreach

Harriet Arkley and Shelly Fishwild reported that about 30 attended the “How to Restore Your Old Urban Garden” talk at Roeder Home. Peg Nathan started a sign-up website for Ask A Master Gardener at Hovander, with encouraging sign up numbers. Beth Chisholm requested times be changed from 12-2 pm to 1-3 pm Saturdays

A-Key Grant Update

Barbara King has submitted the grant proposal July 1. The grant is for \$1500. Information was gathered showing the USDA identified “food desert” in the East County Foothills due to clustered low income housing, no local groceries, and long distance to services. The local libraries and the East County Regional Resource Center are eager for a Growing Groceries program for 2019, which was created in 2009 by MG interns. Results will be announced in September. The local radio station would like 15 minute “spots” on gardening, another outreach opportunity.

Revamping Membership Roster

Awaiting report from Beth Chisholm.

New Business

Outreach on Foundation Flyer

The Weeders Digest is awaiting a new WSU staff editor. Meanwhile, Barbara has created "Foundation Flyer: JULY News for Whatcom Master Gardeners" of events and how-to for earning MG hours. The goal is consolidating information to remind and benefit MGs during the time Weeders Digest is missing. This Foundation Flyer 11x8 handout was distributed as example.

Important Future Dates

Harriet announced these important dates for Directors to note:

Wednesday Picnic(s) at Hovander

The Pavilion at Hovander has been reserved for two potluck picnic "celebrations", Wednesdays at 11 am, July 18 and August 22 (after the Fair).

Weeders Digest

The next WD will be published August 31 and all material is due by August 20.

Annual Meeting

This will be October 11 at the YWCA and will include a Foundation meeting, presentation of graduates, and awards.

Master Gardener Foundation Board Retreat

This will be November 1, for a full day, at the Whatcom Foundation meeting room (the same location as our last retreat).

Slate for 2019 Foundation Board

Harriet will appoint a Slate Committee by August 1. She encourages Directors to reflect and consider what each wishes to do next year..

Program Update

Beth provided a handout of Coordinator Updates. New and important for MG training candidates is the addition of two open house/information sessions which replace interviews. Applications are due November 30, selections by late December to early January and start of course in February for 12 weeks.

A motion was made by Barbara Schickler to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Bonnie LeVan and passed by the board at 11:58 am.

Submitted by Louise Granger, substituting for Kathy Barrett, Secretary.