

MINUTES OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING ON JANUARY 5, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: A quorum of board members was present. The meeting was held at the UT/TSU Extension Offices in Murfreesboro, TN, beginning at 5:30 p.m., with the new 2015 President Linda Stevens presiding.

Current 2015 officers present: President Linda Stevens, Co-Secretaries Frank and Dee Crawford, Treasurer Joy Anderton. Other members present: 2014 Treasurer Marilyn Rogan, Janie Becker and Jack Smith.

December minutes were not available. The December revised minutes were not posted on website and need to be. This year the corrected minutes are to be posted on-line by the Webmaster or someone on the Web Team, which is to be formed. Suggested candidates for team are Linda Lindquist and Frank Crawford.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Marilyn Rogan, current Treasurer, presented Joy Anderton, 2015 Treasurer, the RCMG checkbook, deposit register and rubber stamp to endorse checks. She also gave Linda and Joy a chart of accounts, the 2014 Balance Sheet, a list of members who have paid 2015 dues and a list of Garden Basics members.

There is an estimated 2015 budget for projects. Marilyn recommended a Steering Committee be formed to determine future/continuation of projects, costs, goals, and other plans. No motion was made. Various ways to obtain funds were mentioned – fundraisers, private donations and/or grants.

Grantors want to know how we will impact community via (1) number of people who visit demonstration gardens annually, (2) questionnaires at the proposed kiosk (3) educational workshop questionnaires currently ask attendees how they will change their gardening practices and/or (4) clickers used to count attendees.

Grants mentioned: National Public Lands Day (NPLD), capital grants, everyday grants which require three events annually with five people present. Marilyn to do grant research.

The Kroger rewards card is set up. RCMG is to receive 5% of quarterly purchases made by our cardholders. Education is forthcoming as to how to use cards.

JANIE BECKER stated that all project leaders need to complete their annual reports to Janie to help set goals, budgets, aspirations and expectations for the future.

A discussion was held regarding details of the upcoming Orientation on January 10 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for new MG Interns. Volunteer MG's plan to arrive at 12:00 Noon to setup for the event.

Thirty-five people are expected to take the Garden Basics course.

Winter School is Feb. 26-27, 2015, and is \$80 - \$90 per person. There needs to be a display table set up there. The gardens need to be spruced up before Winter School. We have committed to donating five items for the Silent Auction.

The By-Laws Committee and the Efficacy Committee are working on the By-Laws.

Janie is using "Doodle Poll.com" to organize meetings and would like others to use it for scheduling meetings.

Tina Pointer is going to train RCMG's to use Facebook.
Janie will provide all needed information to UT for the Annual Report.

LINDA STEVENS stated that the insurance issue be tabled until after the By-Laws are firmed up.

MARILYN ROGAN stated the 2015 projects with the VRC have been planned by the Chairman. There are free pots on order for VRC which are part of a manufacturer's research project.

The demonstration garden potting bench plans now include both wheelchair and standing access, storage bins, sink and water capability.

With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.