

## MINUTES OF MGRC BOARD MEETING ON 5/04/15

The regular meeting was called to order by the President Linda Stevens at 5:30 p.m. at the UT/TSU Extension Offices in Murfreesboro, TN.

Current officers present: President Linda Stevens, Vice President Richard Lee, co-Secretaries Dee and Frank Crawford, Treasurer Joy Anderton. Other members present: Janie Becker, Ken Roberge, Marilyn Rogan, Rebecca Cowan and Jane Lee Wise.

### NEW BUSINESS

- It was decided by the Board that the Co-Secretaries will sit at a table facing the attendees at the association meetings to better see who makes motions and seconds them. The President will also state the motion for the record along with the names of the MG's who make and second the motions.
- Lutheran Services of Tennessee was represented by Jane Lee Wise, MGRC, who provided a MG Volunteer Project Request Form (see attached) to obtain support of the Board for this project.

Concerns expressed by Janie:

We do not need to be the sole labor providers for this project.

We do not do labor exclusively.

Our focus is education of large groups.

Are there other organizations participating?

Do volunteers say they can perform the expected duties?

No funds from MGRC Assn. are included!

We teach resourcefulness to gardeners so they can get answers for themselves.

What would our future education role be? Co-ordination?

Motion was made by Frank C., seconded by Richard L., to approve Item 1 of the project for this Saturday, May 9, 2015, with further discussion to be had about an ongoing educational role. Marilyn Rogan agreed to be contact person. Linda S. and Liz Huber are to be there also.

- Janie proposed the Board consider interpretative signage for each of the six demonstration gardens. Gardens to be included at this time are herb, vegetable, butterfly, rain, orchard and mushroom. Signage would have a steel post and large vinyl overlay which can be changed. Motion was made by Richard L and Seconded by Frank C. to purchase six interpretative signs for gardens with an estimated cost of \$1800. Installation is not included in the \$1800. Motion passed.
- FINANCIAL REPORT: See attachment for report. Motion made by Frank C to accept Financial Report, seconded by Richard L. Motion passed.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE** – One third of MGRC submitted changes to proposed survey. We need fifty percent of members to provide input.
- **BY LAWS** – Perennial Garden needs a maintenance team committee and Janie agreed to provide financial support for the remainder of 2015. Richard L made a motion to include the Perennial Garden in the Demonstration Garden umbrella for 2015. Frank C. seconded and motion passed. Linda S to consult with Nancy N and provide names of two MG's interested in Perennial Garden. Linda S. is trying to schedule a meeting of this new committee.
- **MISCELLANEOUS** – Linda S. suggested the committees are to report status on Facebook page and Richard L. suggested they report at June's MGRC meeting. Ken R. suggested the Board consider adding two new Vice Presidents who would be voting members of the Board and report to Board monthly. Linda L's idea to compile gardening tips as handout may be considered later. Frank C. is updating website which needs a picture of 2015 Board members and a list of team leaders for the MGRC website. Farmer's Market opens on May 8, 2015, with new manager Nina Hanson. Refrigerator in the milk room is to remain unlocked, one refrigerator needs repair or replacement. Linda S to check warranty, etc. Frank C. reported on successful 4-hour Stones River Battlefield Work Day this week. Four MGRC and 3 NPS officers worked on clearing out invasive plants. Another workday is planned in September.

Natalie Bumgarner's duty is to co-ordinate Master Gardeners in Tennessee. New official title for the 'TEMG,' Tennessee Extension Master Gardener website is emphasizing the word "Extension". The website is live on Weds. Use link in our bookmark to access this.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

## Master Gardener Volunteer Project Request Form

Project Name: Lutheran Services – Healthy Garden Program

Location: Oakland Court

Address: OAKLANDS COURT 318 EAST LOKEY AVENUE, MURFREESBORO TN 37130

City: Murfreesboro

Contact Person: Janet Arning

Phone: 615-881-4579      Email: [jarninglst@gmail.com](mailto:jarninglst@gmail.com)

### Description of Project:

Lutheran Services in Tennessee provides raised-bed gardens to families living in public housing to promote nutrition, food sustainability and personal responsibility. Each family is given all the tools and education necessary to grow their own garden. Volunteer opportunities are listed below:

1. Help set up garden kits and provide instruction on set up May 9th.
2. Pick up a load of soil and transport it to Oakland Court by 10:00 am on May 9th.
3. Provide on-going instruction and answer questions throughout the growing season to individual gardeners. This typically consist of phone or site visits once every 2-3 weeks – especially at the beginning of the growing season.
4. Provide a class to the gardeners in a neutral location.

Start Date: May 9, 2015 10:00 a.m.– 12:00 and ongoing instruction TBD by volunteer.

Proposed Number of Master Gardeners: 10

Cost of Project: \$2500

Funding Source: Individual donors

Other Project Details: Lutheran Services has successfully organized and maintained this program for the last 5 years in North Nashville’s Cheatham Place Apts. We would love to have involvement from the Davidson Co. Master Gardener’s program as well.