

RUTHERFORD CO. MASTER GARDENER'S EXEC. BOARD MEETING: Oct. 2, 2018

RCMG BOARD MEETING:

- The meeting was called to order by President Jack Smith at 6:07 p.m. in the Classroom of the Lane Agri Park Community Center.
- Officers in Attendance: (6) President Jack Smith, 1st Vice President Jennifer Salter, VP of Education Warren Anderson, VP of Outreach Susie Hawkins, Treasurer Lee Etta Cadotte, and Secretary Lecia Anderson.
- Others in Attendance: (6) Terri Rodriguez, Larry Rogers, Teresa Fly, Brenda Cross, Keith Miller, Gloria Kane, and Rachel Painter, RC Ext. Agent/MG Coord.
- Total Attendance: 12

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jack Smith

Jack read an email to the group from Rocky Bernard in which Rocky stated his desire to resign his Board position as the 1st Vice President and Program Chairperson for 2019. The Board will be replying to Rocky's request with regrets that he will be unable to serve on the Board but have accepted his resignation. Jack stated that within our current Bylaws it states that the Executive Board can replace the vacated position of an Officer. Brenda Cross had also been a candidate for this Board position and lost by a single vote. A motion was made by Warren Anderson and seconded by Lee Etta Cadotte with unanimous agreement by the Board members that Brenda Cross hold the position of 1st Vice President and Program Chairperson for 2019.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jennifer Salter

- This month's Association meeting speaker will be Terri Rodriguez who will be speaking on Safety.
- The tour of Bloomsbury Farm was quite enjoyable and there are already people wanting to go back as a group for another tour.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Lecia Anderson

- Several of the master gardeners volunteered to help with the local Waterfest that was sponsored by the Watershed Association at Old Fort Park on September 15th. There were over 1,200 students that participated with 186 students that stopped by Warren's booth.
- Lecia also reported that several members had worked to clean up the demonstration gardens for the wedding of Mitchell Motte's daughter.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Lee Etta Cadotte

- The balance in our bank account is currently \$14,901.08 as of Sept. 30th.
- There have been overages in the Perennial and Herb garden budget. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to increase the 2018 perennial garden budget from \$100 to \$300 and the herb garden budget from \$100 to \$225.
- Lee Etta handed out copies of the MGRC 2019 Project Budget and reviewed it with the group. After review it was consensus that most budgeted item expenses be increased on the higher side for next year over what we had this year so that we can better take care of our projects without going over our budgets.

Rachel mentioned that the project leaders for the demonstration gardens will need to be contacted to discuss with them their various project ideas and budgets for 2019 and to remind them to get their project reports in to her.

- Lee Etta questioned whether we will still be budgeting the \$750 allocation for 4-H camp from the Farmer's Market concession proceeds in 2019. There was a question as to whether this money should actually be a budgeted item. Lee Etta stated that it has to be a budgeted item. Rachel suggested to set a hard limit for 4-H camp and use the other concession proceeds for the new Junior Master Gardeners Camp. After a discussion, it was recommended that the monies from the FM concessions be reduced back to \$500 for 4-H camp and that up to \$600 would be used for the Junior Master Gardeners Camp. A motion was made to approve this recommendation, the motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board.

VP OF EDUCATION: Warren Anderson

- The Garden Basics course is going to be held on Thursday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. starting January 31st through February 28th. Brenda announced the current suggested topics and speakers for the course which are Site Assessment and Soil Testing by Dr. Warren Anderson, Composting by Mark Murphy, Basic Plant Knowledge and How Plants Grow by Richard Lee, Studs and Duds: Recommended Plants and Plants to Avoid by Larry Rogers, Vegetable Gardening by Reggie Reeves, Vegetable Garden Pests and Control by Ken Roberge, Pollinators by Carol Reese and Nancy Nelson, Pruning by Keith Miller, Interpreting Soil Tests by Warren Anderson, and Watering: How Much, How Often and When To by Jack Smith.

EXTENSION AGENT REPORT: Rachel Painter

- Rachel brought up for discussion as to whether we are going to provide the 2019 Interns with a membership dues voucher. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously

approved that the 2019 Interns will receive a membership dues voucher for the year they complete their master gardening course.

- Applications for the 2019 master gardening classes are currently on line and completed applications are due by December 1st. We currently have three applications so far and are limiting enrollment to 25 applicants. Classes are going to be held on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- Rachel reminded us that the Board needs to appoint a Peer Review Committee to audit the financial books of the organization. Joyce Stiles, Anna Paddon, and Karla Hagan did the last audit on February 1, 2017 and it was their recommendation that the next audit be performed by an audit team outside of our MG organization. Jennifer will look into getting recommendations for an outside audit team.
- Rachel brought before the Board a decision that needs to be made on limiting the privileges of Interns. In the proposed Bylaws Section 8.06 it states: Privileges of the MGRC members include voting, teaching, holding project leader positions, and holding office (some office positions indicate years of membership required). There have been questions as to whether the Interns should be given those same privileges. It was decided that they not be allowed the same privileges until they have received their certification at the December graduation. The proposed Bylaws Section 8.06 will then be revised to read as follows: Privileges of the Certified MGRC members include voting, teaching, holding project leader positions, and holding office (some office positions indicate years of membership required). Intern members are granted full membership privileges upon certification at December graduation. A motion was made, seconded, and approved that these revisions to the Bylaws Section 8.06 be made. These Bylaws will be going out to the Association members for voting on at this month's Association meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- There was discussion on what should be done with the fruit trees in the orchard. Currently Keith has been working on the orchard but there needs to be a project leader. Keith mentioned Drew Landerman as a possible candidate and that Les Heaberlin has volunteered to help us. The spraying of the trees is so labor intensive because it starts in February and has to be done every 2 to 3 weeks into June. Larry is to talk with Drew about the possibility of him heading the orchard.
- Warren mentioned the need to get with Dr. Johnston at MTSU to give us some type of financial commitment from him for the vineyard as well as a written commitment also. Rachel also mentioned that Lisa Brent is going to be project leader for the vineyard next year. Also, there will be stations next year at the Grape Harvest. Participants will check-in and then be shuttled to the vineyard on a hay wagon where Lisa or Warren will be stationed to give a brief history of the vineyard and explain how to pick the grapes. If participants pick a full lug they will be given a sticker in order to receive a gallon of

juice. The grapes will be hauled back to the pavilion where at station 2 the de-stemming process will be explained, station 3 will be the juicing process, and station 4 will be the jelly making demonstration. The one gallon of juice will be distributed only to those with a sticker.

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded, and approved that the meeting be adjourned. Time of adjournment was 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lecia Anderson
Secretary

