

Master Gardeners of Rutherford County  
Board Meeting  
January 14, 2014

Meeting commenced at 5:30, member in attendance were Ken Roberge, Marilyn Rogan, Carol Reese, Janie Becker, Mark Murphy, Reggie Reeves, Gloria Kane, and Nancy Nelson, Don Richardson and Anthony Tuttle

Carol R is taking minutes in lieu of Teresa Fly, who is out of town.

Agenda for the meeting is on the table.

There are no minutes from the last meeting.

#### Educational

MG Garden course has 30 in attendance, 1<sup>st</sup> on the waiting list is to be notified that they can come to class.

In two weeks Garden Basics starts, (1/21/2014) 22 people are currently signed up.

Advertising has been delayed for Garden Basics, it would help to put it on the FB page. We can post announcement for Garden Basics on Rutherford County site.

Advocacy Board is asking for volunteers for registration, bag stuffing, food service. Each County Association is being asked to supply something for the silent auction.

Advocacy Board will ask for 3 hour blocks of time in volunteer time. One 3 hour block will get a free education. Each County association will be asked to supply something for silent auction. Tennessee Magazine features WS? website

#### Projects

Monthly work schedule will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Monthly work schedule is starting March 15<sup>th</sup>. Hours will be 8-11 a.m.

Spring Plant swap will be April 26, 2014. Fund raising will be a part of this project.

#### Financial

2013 Audit in progress, Reba is doing a wonderful job with help from Marilyn. One of the assets was found to be a replacement lapel mike for one which was borrowed and damaged. The replacement is the property of one of the Ag agents.

The audit process is very thorough.

John Rogan has requested \$100.00 for fabricating the shovel support in the display cabinet.

We have during the past year given up to \$50.00 for speakers. We will continue to do so.

Marilyn Rogan stated that dues are \$1580.00 and operating expenses are \$1985.00, we should increase individuals dues by \$5.00 and couples by \$10.00. Our meeting expenses should be close to meeting income.

Discussion on raising dues ensued with Mark stating that we already ask quite a bit of our members. Hate to drive a potential member away. Janie stated that another way to address the issue to is to get more people to join association.

The Board Recommended that we discuss/vote on raising the dues \$5.00 and \$10.00 respectively at the next meeting. A vote was taken with all the members in attendance voting on this issue. Vote was a tie, 4 to 4, President Roberge broke this tie with a Yea vote. Final vote was 5 to 4.

This will be presented to general membership on 1/20/2014.

We are having trouble hearing in the current meeting room. Ken found a microphone and Mark looked over the specs and price and said that it looked good. We need more information on frequencies and the ability to change frequencies. Wireless heand lapel microphones were discussed. Mark made a motion to purchase the microphone/head set and Marilyn seconded. Vote passed, Ken will purchase the microphone/head set. Copy of head set information attached.

#### Other Old Business

We will be moving to Community Center for meetings and Board Meetings, need to check calendar for dates. Move will be in April, 2014.

Don has checked with Janie to have a print out of all active members who are certified and included this memo in the addendum:

Membership Status as of Dec 9<sup>th</sup>

I have summarized the hours reported and our membership is doing a better job of reporting this year. I have phoned fourteen members that I believe may have

sufficient hours to meet certification but have not met the 25 and 8 our standards. Some did not realize that the CEU's are not the same as Teaching hours and at least one thought that the added ACT hours and CEU hours and only needed to be 25 total. Hopefully most of these fourteen will be able to meet certification standards for 2014. Don

A by-law committee is to be formed and address by-law changes this year.

We will address the needs of computer replacement this year. We will try to address this issue later this year when we have a better idea of our budget needs.

We have \$10,000 in the bank, we propose taking money and spending it on capital equipment. We propose a capital reserve and an educational reserve. This plan is to be presented to the membership.

Janie stated that there is grant money available from the Farm Bureau, we can request more money from Bonnaroo, up to \$2500.00.

Mark stated that we should be welcoming the Advocacy Board to winter school. We will be stuffing bags, doing food service and registration.

Mark would like to present a Green Initiative to the Association at the meeting.

Budget for 2014 operations

Attached.

Meeting Location