

**Agenda: Master Gardener's Board Meeting
April 4, 2017**

**Agenda by President Autumn Shultz
Notes by VP Lisa Brent**

Attending: Autumn Shultz, Jenny Byrum, Lee Etta Cadotte & Lisa Brent

Call Meeting to Order

In order for us to be done by 8:00 pm each topic tonight should be kept to 1.5 minutes. We'll invite our guests to speak first.

-call to order 6:18

Guests:

-Floyd Adams

-Linda Stevens

Minutes Board minutes from March were sent to President on Monday. She will review, make corrections and forward to everyone for approval. We would like to use email for approval of the minutes, in the next couple days - so we can get them to Ken quickly. In the absence of a secretary, please send your changes to me for this month.

-Linda Lundy has resigned from her position as Secretary, we need suggestions/offers for a replacement.

Financials: Lee Etta Cadotte

- Update on the CD: After further research & speaking with other Board members, we determined it is not feasible to pursue a (6) month CD. The plan was for a \$5000 CD. We change Board members every year & that means updating CD information every year. The payable interest rate is at most .2% & would amount to very little income. Granted it would renew every (6) months; however, the benefits are just too little, including a potential of penalty, if the money was needed for a project. Jenny motion, Lee second to no longer pursue a CD. Motion passed. Provident can offer finance/accounting services in the future also.

- Quickbooks online: Based on conversation with Provident Consulting (a non-profit agency), they provide access & our cost is about \$240 a year (including updates & support). The Board has approved our transition to QuickBooks online & that will be implemented shortly.

- Ken Roberge emailed asking for 2017 Monthly Financial Reports to load to the website. Can we send him Jan, Feb, Mar and Apr?

-Annual report has been filed & will be sent to Ken for posting on the website as well.

President's Report: Autumn Shultz

- I've confirmed with Nadean that Community Center rooms are booked for Board Meetings and Association Meetings through 2019.

- The Master Gardener's Keys now have a "Key" (printed tab on key ring shows which key opens which door)

- Patty Davenport has requested an inactive year from the Association due to her husband's health and scheduling restraints. Bylaws: Article VIII, Section 8.08 d covers inactive members - Patty would need to meet with our Extension Coordinator for assessment and later reinstatement.

- Demo Garden Signs Artwork is in progress. Need to determine which areas have a "podium" style sign - which ones we'll need 30"x18" artwork for. Last year the sign committee determined a graphic style for them. At this point we're just applying that style to Vegetable, Butterfly and Herb Demo Gardens.. but which others? Art will be ready for the April association meeting. We'll present the art, then Vinyl can be ordered from Affordable Sign company - on Memorial Blvd.
- Demo Garden Leaders - please be sure you're communicating with Marty regularly - ESPECIALLY for event work days. Marty - encourage the Garden Leaders to show up so they can share vision/needs for each garden.
- New/Replacement Badge Order - find out who and Anthony Tuggle will order. So far: Betty Boynton,?, Terri Rodriquez
- New Projects: (so time counts for volunteer hours for MG) Per Janie - the process is this: a New Project Request form is filled out, presented to the Extension Agent for review, then if approved, presented to the Board for approval. Several people have been asking about this. For a MG's volunteer hours to count toward certification, they have to be allocated to an approved project.
 - Lutheran Gardens - Stacy Clark and Sally ? (Interns) have met with Janet Arning and really want to help with the Murfreesboro Healthy Gardens. Janie says in the past this project was approved for a year trial period, but not enough volunteers showed up. Janie suggests that we focus on filling our role as educators with them, and not as much manual labor/footwork. Maybe we offer education classes on site there. Or offer a huge discount to our Garden Basics course for 5 "scholarship recipients" that Janet could choose. (Further discussion on this topic for another meeting)
 - Boro Garden Party - Several Master Gardeners helped, but unsure if this is (or should be) an approved project.
 - Community Garden - staying out of it. :)
 - See Bylaws: Article VIII, Section 8.04 B for breakdown of hours spent on approved projects. (Read during meeting for clarification)
- Ken Roberge has given me a flash drive of Meeting Notes back to 2012. So that will be helpful.
- Plant Swap: The concern was brought up about Marilyn publishing that we're NOT accepting cans this year. Some felt that should have been an Association decision. Marilyn's reason for this was that we collected 450 canned goods last year (the most we've ever collected) and she's concerned that the public is not bringing plants which puts a strain on the MGs to grow so many plants each year. She herself grew nearly 100 last year and she can't do that again this year. So we need to decide if we'll grow more plants - or limit the number of cans accepted. The bylaws don't cover how this should have been handled.
 - This is probably not a board decision. BUT - We will still have people who bring cans. We should encourage MGs to grow more plants to address Marilyn's concern. We should not turn people away from the event if they do bring cans. It will be in the hands of the Project Leader to decide whether we accept cans in the future and to address the association about future plant needs.
- Graduation is this Association meeting too. Nadean has certificates - Anthony will sign. Nadean – She will be printing the membership cards. Check with Rebecca Lucier Cowan about graduation details. There will be a Potluck and Extension pays for a Meat/Entree. If an Intern knows already, they will not continue with Association, we need their orange badge back.
- June 22 Event - Autumn get with Linda Lindquist about what is needed - start planning decorations and kitchen help.
- Still on my list to locate the inventory list that Anna Padden has and get it updated. (Need to add hose and hose cart, need to have a further discussion on keeping up and tracking)
- Wireless headset mics are down. The wireless handheld mic works, and the corded one. Mitchell found the same one on Amazon for \$125. (Need to get report form person who tested and find out what's needing to get fixed/replaced, also this needs to be checked with property books)

Vice President Report: Lisa Brent

- Adventures in Ag Update: It's this Saturday - What is needed? Let's communicate out to the group via Facebook.

What Kids Demonstrations are planned? Bug suckers? Paper towel square foot gardening? Newspaper pots?

- Field trip for RCMG to Cheekwood in May? Move to June, will announce in April about the event

Vice President Outreach: Jenny Byrum

- Spring Fling success! (30-40 people showed up)
- Giving Back Gardens (1 application from an intern, will announce at Association meeting this month,)
- Plant swap
- Project suggestion from Floyd - (grove of trees somewhere on the grounds, example of flowing "GOOD" trees, also bat houses - something that holds few hundred bats - need to discuss these ideas later)
- Tax questions for Keith Miller

-suggest moving everything possible to the back most cabinets that are locked to keep "things" from going missing by accident, also need to organize those cabinets to make more user friendly and more room

Smart Yards - (3 of the 5 trainees met)

- September 8-9th Friday night and Saturday all day, 15-16th Friday night and Saturday all day are booked. (This has been canceled due to not ready to train, discussed doing a trial 2 hour sample class to short intro "what is the smart yard", minimum \$25/person for just materials need to find acceptable cost to make the program feasible. team plans on working internally to polish the program, more later in the year)
- Team will need to use promotional tools on shared files. Andrea has been compiling. Should be all customizable.
- Jenny, Nancy, Rebecca, Linda Lindquist, & Edwina went to smart yards training. That team will do a workshop.
- The extra money we'd tack on would go to Master Gardeners. There are 9 modules... it'd be great to have one teacher for each module.

Vice President Demo Gardens: Marty Boyce (not here tonight)

- Spring Fling feedback
- Needs?
- Increasing budget for Demo Area as a whole... (we are in negative, need to discuss PLANS and propose - need to discuss this in length later - (suggest get plans from Board members and Demo Garden Leaders, have suggestions for a plan of overall garden needs - special meeting needed for planning and \$\$ needed to get there) suggest April 22 at 8am) Emails to follow.
- Rain Gardens needing help - rocks to fill trenches (Warren says: use plants with easier maintenance - ornamental grasses, iris - rows closer together)

(Pavilion fans need to be fixed - going to ask Marty to look into it - ask extension if they have an electrician or on county that could do electrical work? Get report from Marty on path forward - see if there is an electrician in the association, maybe one of the current interns?)

Vice President Education: Warren Anderson

- Janie & Dr. Tony Johnston were working out a "new" memo of understanding between Extension and MTSU on the vineyard, but that has not been revised. We need to find out where that left off. We may need to get a copy of the original agreement of understanding to determine what needs to be is changed. It's in the notes somewhere that the MGs were going to pull back a little and let MTSU manage it more. I don't know what that fully means. We should get Anthony Tuggle's and Van's input as well as Dr. Anderson.

Linda Lindquist: (lots of responses for the updates to the directory)

- New directories should be ready by next meeting
- Sent out member contact detail updates (we should add this to an annual to-do list)

Old Business not mentioned previously

(This may develop into a future projects list)

Speakers Training:

Developing more Speakers....monthly meeting to sharpen up our skills.

Jenny has two names: houseplant guru (Intern Don Mailan). Emily Arnold from MTSU. Richard intern is joining to teach. Steven and Beverly Wallace are career teachers too.

Ask a Master Gardener - table topics at Farmer's Market and Saturday Market on the Square. (May try and develop this, maybe a topics calendar for helpers and materials on hand for the topic to start interaction). Linda Stevens - library has donated books that would be good for ask a master gardener, may be in the office, should try and find those. Autumn & Lisa going to do quick check in closet for materials.

New Business

-Question from Floyd- is any of the stuff in the storage shed of the barn MG's stuff (on our inventory)? - it needs to be moved out if it is ours -Jenny suggested organizing MG shed, look over what's there and store/use/toss)

Adjourn

7:57