

## RUTHERFORD COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS EXE BOARD MEETING: Nov 7, 2017

### **MGRC Board Meeting:**

- The meeting was called to Order at 6:05 pm in the Community Center Classroom of Lane Agriculture Park. Executive Board Meetings occur on first Tuesday of every month.
- Officers who attended (7): President Autumn Shultz, VP Program Lisa Brent, Treasurer Lee Etta Cadotte, VP Outreach Jenny Byrum, VP Education Warren Anderson, VP Demo Gardens Marty Boyce, and myself as secretary (Barbara Donnell)
- Officers not in attendance (0):
- Other Recognized Members/Guests present (6): Jack Smith, Linda Stevens, Floyd Adams, Keith Miller, Lecia Anderson, and Linda Lindquist
- Extension Agents (1): Rachel Eatherly, Anthony Tuggle (absent)
- Total Attendance: 14

### **Financials:** Lee Etta Codotte sent an Excel spreadsheet for Oct 2017 to the officers this week.

- Check book beginning balance for Oct 1st: \$ 14,147.83
- Check book Deposits/transfers for October: \$ 421.10
- Check book Expenditures for October: \$ 520.23
- Checks outstanding: two, for a total of \$ 276.85
- Ending Check Book Balance for October: \$ 14,048.70
  
- Lee Etta walked us through her evaluation of projected income, and expenses
  - Market bags were purchases for sale, but were not displayed for sale.
  - Anticipates a loss of 10-12 members for the start of 2018; retaining 58 members
  - Our bi-laws clearly indicate that life time members do not have to pay yearly dues.
  - Kroger Reward monies have significantly dropped from ~\$400 to \$40/yr over last few years. As reviewed, Kroger pays based on the volume of recipients; and that along with fewer MGRC members signed up for the program has dropped revenues.
  - Farmer Market concession income has dropped due to food trucks, etc
  - Discussion arose regarding ideas to compensate for loss of revenue: (a) Plant Sale rather than a Plant Swap, and (b) selling excess grape/juice to area vineyards (Rachel will double check if that is permissible)
  - Lee Etta handed out a proposed PROJECTs budget, which was discussed line-by-line with the board members. Most of the project leaders had provided their input prior to the meeting, but some revisions were noted by the Executive board.
    - The biggest change related to the demo garden, which will require replacements/additions of (a) pea gravel for walkways (b) cattle panels for vegetable garden supports (c) irrigation lines, (d) hay bails, and (e) possibly benches.
  - Lisa made a motion to approve the proposed 2018 budget with the suggested revisions. Marty seconded the motion, and it was approved by verbal vote. As stated in the Bylaws, the budget will be presented to the Association for 30-days and voted upon by the Association to finalize approval.

### **Agent's Report:** Rachel Eatherly

- Rachel reported her lists of 2018 Project Leaders and Team Champions. For a complete lists of projects, see the last page of the yearly calendar. Only the highlights will be listed in these

minutes: Newsletter project added, Sunshine category deleted, VP of Outreach (VACANT), Perennial Bed leader (VACANT), Orchard leader (VACANT)

- Rachel conveyed Anthony's viewpoints. The intern class and the classes conducted during the Farmer's Market are solely under the direction of the extension agents and Anthony is the POC.
- Rachel will meet with all 2018 Project Leaders this month.
- End-of-Year Recognition and Awards night will be during the December Association Meeting
  - TROPHY DISCUSSION: Rachel reported that the cost of leaf-shaped acrylic trophy, as used in the past, is currently ~\$59 + an engraving fee. If engraving is desired, then names must be submitted 4-weeks prior to delivery date. Other board members (Lisa volunteered) will check for a better option/price. Some nominations were discussed and agreed on for special awards.

**President's Report:** Autumn Shultz

- ELECTIONS: Richard Lee (absent). Carol Reese and others were asked to help Richard fill the vacancies. Current status of the nominations remains as follows:
  - President: Jack Smith
  - Vice President #1 and Program Chair: Jenny Byrum
  - Vice President of Demonstrations: Linda Lindquist
  - Vice President of Education: Warren Anderson
  - Vice President of Outreach: vacant
  - Treasurer: Lee Etta Cadotte
  - Secretary: Lecia Anderson
- DEMO GARDEN SIGNS: Hope to have by the end of this year the signage for the Rain Garden but I must be sure that the illustration photos are not copy righted. —> Rachel said that she could assist with obtaining photos.
- SHADOWING: Current officers should prepare to pass the torch by collecting and organizing documents. Lucia Anderson shadowed the secretarial duties during this meeting.
- NON-CERTIFIED PEOPLE
  - After comparison of our current membership with the Facebook roll, it is recommended that these 5 people will be removed from MGRC FaceBook page.
    1. Eddie Tomlinson (injury in 2016, and not likely to return)
    2. Millie Vilmerding (moved away after marriage)
    3. Leslie Mitman (Janie, our past ext agent, added her name in 2015)
    4. Ernest Flatt (lacked hours for certification)
    5. Cheri Hagewood (unknown)
  - After a group discussion, Lisa Brent made the following motion: "These 2 people listed below, will be granted a one-time excused pass for their un-logged hours in 2016, if-and- only-if they meet all aspects of membership for 2017. In so doing, there will be no-break-in-service shown for 2016." The motion was seconded by Barbara Donnell and passed by verbal vote.
    1. Samantha Freemon (attends meetings but not currently certified)
    2. Diane Weaver (attends meetings but not currently certified)
- Autumn compiled 2018 Project Leader's lists for Rachel - and we will all review that tonight.
- Awards and Recognitions for 2017.
  - When: Association Meeting, December 11, 2017

- Board decided on these award categories
  - Recognize members who logged between 50 and 99 hours
  - one \$25 gift-card drawing for members who logged between 100-199 hours
  - one \$25 gift-card drawing for members who logged between 200-299 hours
  - one \$25 gift-card drawing for all members who logged 300 or more hours
  - Gold Leaf for all members with 100 or more hours
  - Recognize with a small gift each member who logged between 200-299 hours
  - Recognize with a small gift each member who logged between 300+ hours
  - Recognize with a large gift the member who logged the most hours
  - Special Award Categories (see agent's report .... TROPHY) :
    - Some nominations were discussed and made for special awards. Autumn made notes, but will not be published in these minutes to insure the suspense and surprise.
  - Years of Service Recognition (pins from the state)
  - INTERNS: certified interns will swap orange badge for their green badge.
  - Recognize Board Members
  - Recognize Leaders

**Vice President Report:** Lisa Brent

- Lisa has compiled a list of the bi-laws that need to be clarified and/or updated. She will be sending an email to the board members for their review.
- Lisa will HELP anyone log hours @ November's Association Meeting - provided they have their written tally of volunteer hours prepared prior to the meeting.

**Vice President Outreach:** Jenny Byrum.

- Giving back gardens (GBG) project event was cancelled due to bad weather. Since we are approaching winter, this event will be re-scheduled for the spring. That may be the last event for GBG.
- By end of Nov, selection of our "2018 Theme" contest winner will be selected. That art/ theme will featured on the 2018 front cover of our calendar

**Vice President Demo Gardens:** Marty Boyce.

- Happy Harvest report. Marty said approximately 20 people attended the event, refreshments were provided, iris were planted, compost bins were moved and re-chained for security (Key is in the shed).

**Vice President Education:** Warren Anderson.

- none

**Old Business not mentioned previously**

- none

**New Business**

- none

**Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm

Submitted by Barbara Donnell, Secretary. Last Modified: Nov 14, 2017