

## **RUTHERFORD CO. MASTER GARDENERS EXEC. BOARD MEETING: March 6, 2018**

### **RCMG BOARD MEETING:**

- The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. in the small conference room at the Community Center at the Lane Ag Park.
- Officers in Attendance: (4) President Jack Smith, VP of Education Warren Anderson, Treasurer Lee Etta Cadotte, and Secretary Lecia Anderson.
- Officers Absent: 1<sup>st</sup> VP Jennifer Salter, VP of Demonstration Gardens Linda Linqvist, and VP of Outreach Susie Hawkins.
- Others in Attendance: (4) Autumn Schultz, Keith Miller, Floyd Adams, and Rhonda Bilyeu.
- Extension Agent(s): (1) Rachel Eatherly
- Total Attendance: 9

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Jack Smith

- Jack reported that this will be the last year Ken Roberge will be in charge of the Garden Basics classes. There was discussion that the Board present Ken and his wife Melissa Certificates of Appreciation for their dedication and hard work in coordinating the Garden Basics classes. Autumn agreed to have these certificates ready for presentation at the next Association meeting.
- Jack mentioned he would like to have a copy of the 2017 inventory to review. He asked Autumn to email him a copy.
- We have a microphone headset that was purchased in 2014 that isn't working. There was discussion about purchasing a new headset but no decision was made, at this time.
- Our MG Web site is up for renewal and Jack stated that we can get a two year renewal for approximately \$90 which would save us around \$50. We currently have a budget of \$75 for I.T. Support. There was a motion to increase the 2019 Budget for I.T. Support from the current \$75 to \$150 with a two year Web site renewal and also approve an increase in the I.T. Support budget for years following.
- 2018 Membership Directories are coming along and should be ready soon.
- RCMG Membership cards are also being worked on and will be printed by the Ag office and handed out at the next Association meeting.
- Jack ask for consideration that we increase our educational effort by having quarterly two hour presentations/lectures. Rachel stated that we need to start small in that we have already increased education with the Library Series, Farmer's Market, and Garden Basics that is held in the spring. Warren mentioned, as a teaching opportunity, the fall grape harvest that will be coming in mid August and early September. There was discussion regarding more hands on type of educational programs or demonstrations instead of lectures.
- Jack reminded the Board to invite the Interns to the March 19<sup>th</sup> Association meeting.
- The first Library session had a great response with over 33 in attendance.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Lee Etta Cadotte

- The end of February checkbook balance is \$17,125.96.

- Lee Etta reported that 58 members have paid their dues for 2018 with four members inactive Jenny Byrum, Marilyn Rowan, Ken Smith, and Barbara Mullins. She has also been contacting the members that overpaid their 2018 Association dues by \$5.00. So far, no one has asked for reimbursement.
- Lee Etta discussed the correction of last month's Board minutes to reflect that we are a non-profit, 501C(3) corporation. Each year we file informational tax returns to State and the Federal government. The only time we pay sales tax on an item is when we are planning to sell the item, such as drinks at the Farmer's Market concession stand. The rules that apply to having a State sales tax exemption certificate is that items sold can not exceed \$4,800.
- There has been discussion with regard to ordering a memorial plaque for the magnolia tree that originally was planted in the garden in memory of Frank Crawford. It was decided by the Board that the MG work shed be named In Memory of Mr. Crawford.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Lecia Anderson

- There was discussion of the Mid-Summer Mingle being moved from July to June. Reggie Reeves had asked that it be moved to June because July is so warm. It was tentatively set for Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. Jennifer Salter will be coordinating this with Reggie.
- The Board had discussed at previous meetings the possibility of increasing funds for 4-H camp. We currently partially fund two scholarships with \$500 collected from Farmer's Market concessions. Rachel felt any additional funds donated for 4-H camp should be dispersed by the Agents as they deem appropriate. The motion was made and unanimously approved by the Board that a \$250 increase in the amount of our donation toward 4-H camp be made for 2018.

**VP OF EDUCATION:** Warren Anderson

- Warren discussed needing to purchase some sedges for the rain garden. If there are no more donations of rocks then we will need ½ ton of rocks, also. Warren may be needing additional funding in June but is looking into another possible funding source.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- Keith brought before the Board the need to purchase compostable plates for the Association meeting meal. It was agreed by the Board that Keith make the purchase.
- Rhonda Bilyeu came before the Board requesting she be reinstated as a Certified Master Gardener. She has completed and turned in to Rachel all the necessary paperwork to be reinstated, Rachel stated that it has been less than five years so Rhonda does not have to retake the Intern course but since it has been over one year and a Leave of Absence form was not submitted, it must come before the Board. The motion was made and seconded to reinstate Rhonda.

- Autumn noted that the second Sam's Card has been received from Jenny Byrum and given to Keith Miller.
- Autumn passed around the Perineal Garden sign layout for the Board to review. The sign covers the difference in a perineal, annual, and biannual and also contains design basics of a small garden space.
- Due to Jennifer being out of the country, Jack reported on the confirmed speakers for the Association meetings.

March: Dan and Nancy Kula of the Middle TN Iris Society

April: Lauren Palmer owner of Bloomsbury Farms, CSA, Smyrna

May: Reilly Jackson, UT Knoxville, speaking on Bats

November: Sam Mabery, Ranger (TBA) and Biological Tech from Stones River Battlefield will be  
Discussing keeping the natural landscape.

- Rachel informed the Board that multiple local Boy and Girl Scouts troops are very interested in helping us with projects. She discussed with Floyd the possibility of the Boy Scouts rebuilding our mushroom bed.
- Keith noted that at the Bee Keepers Assoc. meeting there was a Girl Scout that is making mason bee houses and needs a place to install them. Rachel said a couple could be placed in the Orchard away from visitor traffic.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

