

RUTHERFORD CO. MASTER GARDENER'S EXEC. BOARD MEETING: April 3, 2018

RCMG BOARD MEETING:

- The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. in the large conference room at the Lane Ag Park Community Center.
- Officers in Attendance: (4) President Jack Smith, VP of Education Warren Anderson, Treasurer Lee Etta Cadotte and Secretary Lecia Anderson.
- Officers Absent: 1st VP Jennifer Salter, VP of Demonstration Gardens Linda Linquist, and VP of Outreach Susie Hawkins.
- Others in Attendance: (3) Autumn Schultz, Keith Miller, and Floyd Adams.
- Extension Agent(s): (1) Rachel Eatherly
- Total Attendance: 8

OLD BUSINESS:

- There was discussion at the March Board meeting about possible replacement of the broken headset with no decision being made at the meeting. It was discussed that we not purchase a new headset. The conference rooms at the Ag Park Community Center are equipped with an existing public address system. It was recommended that instead of purchasing a headset we should use the built in system and simply purchase a longer XLR connector cord. Jack asked Keith to look into this and Lee Etta will contact Ken as well. A motion was made and approved to purchase the XLR cord.
- Lee Etta wanted to clarify with the Board the increase in the amount we donate to 4-H Camp from the money collected at the Farmer's Market concessions. We annually donate \$500 toward 4-H camp scholarships. It was approved at the March Board meeting to increase these funds by \$250 and that the 4-H Coordinators will decide how the additional money will be spent for camp.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Jack Smith

- Jack reported that Ken Roberge deeply appreciated the Board's recognition of all his hard work as well as his wife Melissa's work in coordinating the Garden Basics classes. They were presented with Certificates of Appreciation at the March Association Meeting. Our Garden Basics Coordinator position is currently vacant due to Ken resigning. There was discussion amongst the Board on how the Garden Basics classes were originally started and the direction of the program in the future. There are at least four years of Garden Basics course material that is available on a flash drive.

- Jack will be appointing a committee to review the master gardener inventory to consist of himself and Karla Hagan, Teresa Fly, Nancy Nelson, George Gaskill, and Beverly Wallace. After MG items are inventoried they will be stored in labeled containers.
- Jack will also be appointing a Bylaw Review Committee to consist of himself, Keith Miller, Linda Stevens, Rachel Eatherly, Natalie Manor, Rocky Bernard, Floyd Adams, and Autumn Schultz.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Farmer's Market: Keith mentioned needing to do an inventory prior to restocking supplies in preparation of the opening of Farmer's Market. The budget for the market is \$600 with a petty cash fund of \$30. Keith has the renewal letter for the Sam's card which costs \$45/annually. Keith requested Lee Etta write a check for \$450 to purchase supplies for the Farmer's Market which opens May 11th.
- Lee Etta reported that Don Richardson had requested an up to date list of members that are current on their dues, signed their MOAs, etc. She has tried to contact the members that are not current which are Terri Rodriguez, Michael Slaybaugh, Steven Stewart, Sherrell Vick, Sharon Driscoll, Marilyn Tanner, Jennifer Tweedle, Justin Hydrick, Keith Looper, Mary Leslie Mitman, Chris Crockett, and Danita Autenrith. Danita sent a check in January to the office but it has not been located. According to our Bylaws, inactive members are those master gardener volunteers for whom one or more of the following conditions apply: A member that is 8 weeks delinquent in paying their membership dues (April 30th deadline), has not completed their annual volunteer and continuing education hours, have requested to be made inactive, or resigned in writing to the Executive Board. Currently, members on inactive status are not required to pay dues.
- Lee Etta mentioned that one of last year's Interns is unable to pay her \$30 dues for 2018. Since we currently have money from the members that over paid, Lee Etta brought before the Board the possibility of using some of those funds to pay this 2017 Intern's dues. Jack stated it was a great idea but we don't want to set a precedent. Keith mentioned, for consideration only, that it be brought before the Association that we use the funds collected from the over payment of dues to cover this individual's dues for 2018. If the Association members agree, by a motion, then that does not establish a precedent. However, we need to find out if the Intern was fully certified last year and the details of her circumstances before going to the Association.

VP OF EDUCATION: Warren Anderson

- Warren reported that Stones River Watershed is considering the possibility of funding \$300 for the rock needed to help complete the rain gardens. He will also be needing a large truck to get these rocks back to the agri park grounds.

- Warren discussed getting the large pile of gardening/grape vine debris moved to the back of the berms per Van's request. Lecia volunteered the use of her truck in order to get the job accomplished.
- Adventures in Agriculture was discussed. Lisa Brent is in charge of the project. Warren will be working the soil test table as well as the honey bee table and Jack will be handling the Master Gardener's table where he will be demonstrating container gardening.
- Dr. Johnson will be replacing a broken ratchet on the sagging grape vine trellis.

AGENT'S REPORT: Rachel Eatherly

- Spring Fling will be Sunday, April 8th from 1 pm to 4 pm. All project leaders should be available to help direct clean up of their areas. Floyd will be bringing mulch for the project.
- Orchard pruning will also be done on April 8th. The Interns have been trained in the pruning of fruit trees and will be handling the bulk of the project with the assistance of Warren and Keith and other volunteers.
- Adventures in Ag will be held on Saturday, April 14th. Lisa Brent is in charge of this project and Jack will be helping. Farm Bureau will be donating protein cattle feed buckets for the MG volunteers to use in demonstrating container gardening as well as the containers Jack will be using for his demonstration. We have been asked that our demonstrations be for adults. Autumn mentioned that since we are set up under the pavilion we normally have a lot of visitors that walk through the gardens. We could use volunteers in the gardens to talk with the public.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lecia Anderson, Secretary