

RUTHERFORD CO. MASTER GARDENER'S EXEC. BOARD MEETING: May 2, 2018

RCMG BOARD MEETING:

- The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Jack Smith in the Classroom at the Lane Ag Park Community Center.
- Officers in Attendance: (6) President Jack Smith, 1st VP Jennifer Salter, VP of Outreach Susie Hawkins, VP of Education Warren Anderson, Treasurer Lee Etta Cadotte and Secretary Lecia Anderson
- Officer(s) Absent: VP of Demonstration Gardens Linda Linqvist
- Others in Attendance: (3) Ken Roberge, Keith Miller and Floyd Adams
- Extension Agent(s): Rachel Eatherly was absent due to upcoming wedding.
- Total Attendance: 9

NEW BUSINESS:

- Rachel Eatherly, the Master Gardener Coordinator is getting married this Saturday, May 5th. Jack talked with the group about getting her a gift. After discussion it was decided that Lee Etta would get her a \$250 gift card as well as a greeting card. She will be presented with her gift at the next Association meeting.
- Susie brought up the need for a hose for use at the perennial bed located across from the Lane Agri-Park main office building. We had several new plants that were placed in the bed this spring that need to be cared for through the heat of the summer. She asked if we have a hose and hose cart that could be used. There is one located in the work shed but that would be burdensome to have to move back and forth. The problem with purchasing a hose and cart specifically for the perennial bed would be the likelihood of it getting stolen from the bed. The faucet that would be used to water is across the driveway from the bed and can only be turned on with a key. Lecia suggested Susie carry a hose in her personal vehicle to use when needed and will also talk with Van about getting a key for MG use.
- Jennifer told the group that Riley Jackson, May's Association meeting speaker, has asked to be reimbursed for gas expenses from Knoxville. Jennifer will let Lee Etta know the amount so the check will be ready prior to Association meeting.
- Jennifer questioned the group concerning our summer social with regard to what the association furnishes for the meal. Jenny Byrum coordinated the event last year and

has moved out of the country. To the best of everyone's memory the meat was provided along with drinks. The members brought side items/dishes and desserts. Jennifer will be coordinating the event this year.

- Ken informed the Board that he had straightened out the registration issues concerning our Web name **mastergardeners-rc.org** (URL ownership, icon, database, etc.). We register the name and then pay for the website software. Jack asked if the registration had to be in an individual's name. It is currently registered under the name Ken Roberge with his e-mail and telephone number and the 315 John Rice Blvd. Murfreesboro, TN address and is valid until May 1, 2020. Ken mentioned that we need to have continuity and should possibly have it registered in another name such as MGRC. This will be further looked into at time of renewal.
- Keith mentioned that Rachel had emailed the layout of the orchard that Les Heaberlin had made of all the different varieties of trees. He brought before the Board the need to remove approximately 6+ diseased/infested trees in the orchard. Rachel has four grafted apple trees of two new varieties, St. Clair and Arkansas Black, that are highly resistant to disease and pests that we want to place in the orchard.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Lee Etta Cadotte

- The check book balance at the end of April is \$15,350.44 with three outstanding checks.
- Lee Etta mentioned to Jack that he and the former President, Autumn Shultz need to transfer the check writing verification in order for him to be able to sign Association checks.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The 2017 Intern that is unable to pay this year's dues was brought up for discussion. This Intern had completed the 40 hours of volunteer time and met all other requirements last year for certification. It was decided by the Board to approve the paying of the \$30 dues for this year only, 2018. These funds will be taken from the money that members over paid on their dues this year and have agreed to contribute to the MGRC Association.
- There was further discussion with regard to the use of the in-house public address system. For the past two months we have been using the microphone with an XLR cord on the in house system. Ken said we have two XLR cords one which has a short in it so therefore it doesn't work. Jack said an additional 20' o 25' XLR cord will take care of our needs. Ken will coordinate with Lee Etta on the XLR cord purchase. Also, we need to get access to the media closet in order to increase the volume on the P.A. System.

- Ken addressed the Board concerning the outside use of the portable loud speaker. If we are planning on using it we need to purchase a new battery as the older one is no longer recharging.
- Ken also brought up the use of the overhead projector which was purchased over 10 years ago. It is a good projector but as Keith pointed out it would require an RS232 serial connector to adapt it for use with the USB or HDMI connections on the newer computer equipment.
- Keith will be getting the inventory needed to restock the Farmer's Market concession stand prior to the market opening on Friday, May 11th.
- The Plant Swap was discussed. It seems there was less participation this year than in previous years. There were very few glitches with inconsistent advertisement being the biggest problem. Only one person brought cans even though advertisement stated we weren't accepting cans any longer. Overall the plant swap went smoothly but definitely can be improved upon next year.

VP OF EDUCATION: Warren Anderson

- On Wednesday, June 6th at 10 a.m. there will be a Grape Summit at the Lane Ag Center to discuss the Vineyard. This meeting is being held in order to revise the Memo of Understanding and clarify the care and maintenance of the vineyard with M.T.S.U. Warren will send the appropriate people a meeting agenda.
- Warren brought up the purchase of a wood chipper. For MG needs a machine costing less than \$1,000 should be sufficient. If we purchase a chipper we have to be able to store it. Marty and Warren have recommended that in order to remove the woody yard waste currently between the berms that we hire a tree service to initially do the bulk of the job. The chips could be left in place and used as needed. Keith discussed getting a burn permit and simply burning the yard waste but would have to be discussed with Anthony Tuggle. Also, having the City of Murfreesboro pick up the yard waste and haul it to Florence Road was also discussed. Ken mentioned using Rick Scicolone with R & S Services, LLC. Warren is to find out more information and discuss with group at next meeting.
- Connor Moss who is the Curator at Oakland's Mansion has reached out to the Master Gardeners. We have an opportunity to work with Connor on the educational activities at the Mansion. There will be approximately 1,000+ grade school children that will be visiting the raised bed gardens on the grounds for educational purposes. We have been

asked to help supervise the activities of the children which would allow us volunteer hours for our service. There is also an old swimming pool on the property that has been filled with fill dirt and is in need of suggestions as to how to possibly make it a productive garden space. Warren feels this would be a great opportunity for the group to get additional P.R. in the community and he will discuss this further with Mr. Moss and Rachel. MG members that work with children have to have an NCIC (National Crime Information Center) background check.

- Warren brought up the possibility of doing supervisory work at the Sam Davis Home. In the past, Linda Goetz and several members of the MG group had done volunteer work on the grounds in the past. Warren has sent Rachel an email regarding this possibility.
- Warren is still in need of rocks for the rain garden and the Stones River Watershed Association will be donating \$300 toward this project.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- The Inventory Committee is working toward organizing all Master Gardener property. The Chairman will be purchasing plastic tubs to place labeled inventoried items in for storage.
- The Bylaws Review Committee will be reviewing our current Bylaws in order to make them more compliant with the TEMG guidelines.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lecia Anderson
Secretary

