

Central Gorge Master Gardener™ Association
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 8, 2018, OSU Extension Service Office

Attendees: Bitter, Linda; Bosler, Eric; Bosler, Shari; Bradley, Christie; Citlau, Renee; DeTar, Laurel; Johnson, LJ; McGregor, Kathy; Stevens, John; Sturman, Bill; Suits, Rachel; Winfield, Bill

Secretary's Report (Christie): The minutes for the March meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report (John for Nancy): Most of the checks written have been for the greenhouse and plant sale. The financials for March were approved.

Extension Report (Rachel): The plant clinics have started and are already busy, with a stream of issues coming in. Rachel is still getting the market boxes ready. Plant clinic training is complete and new Master Gardeners should be signing up for clinics. Everything is in Shiftboard and openings are filling up fast.

There was some discussion about the concerns over the Hood River County budget, which came out April 5. The memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the county ends in June, so a new one is being drafted. There is no guarantee on funding for Extension. If funding is not settled, Extension will be closed, including the offices, and there will be no leadership (program coordinator) for the Master Gardener program. Rachel has been discussing this with Gail L.

There will be things the Master Gardeners can do to help, and Rachel will let us know how. Eric noted that there will be opportunities for active lobbying. Multnomah and Lane Counties have been through this. In Lane County, they funded themselves through a funding drive and then they voted in a 5-year service district. If funding for Extension goes away, we can still continue, but we would not have a program coordinator, and we would have to take classes another way, like online or in another county.

We could not fund Rachel's position ourselves because, as funding is set up, we would be required to fund the entire extension program of approximately \$163K.

If the Extension offices are closed, water will still be available because MCAREC will still be in place, and they will need irrigation. We would probably also have access to our greenhouse.

Master Gardener of the Year and Behind the Scenes nominations are due and we need the past two or three presidents and several at large members to participate.

Rachel still needs to schedule the project leader meeting.

OMGA Report (Linda for Sandy): We received two grants for the greenhouse and do not plan to apply for any more this year. If anyone is planning to apply, the application needs to be submitted this month. For the Search for Excellence award, it needs to be a new program in its second year. The criteria is available online at the OMGA website. The Community Garden and FISH are the only two that could be applicable, and the deadline to apply is May 15. We may also qualify for an Extension Educator grant. Shari has what she wrote up for the Karl Karlson award last year for reference.

We were asked if we had any members applicable for a longevity award, which is 20, 30, or 40 years as a member. Possibly Elizabeth '96 and Scott Fitch '98 may be eligible. Sandy and Linda can submit their names.

Information on Mini College is still a bit scant, but they are building a new website.

John suggested that we officially honor those who worked on the greenhouse. We might be able to do a special award at graduation.

Renee brought some leftover visors that we may want to use at the plant sale or at other events.

Greenhouse (Eric): The greenhouse project is going well and Eric would like to commend Steve for all of his generosity and support. The grasses and SWCD plants have been moved over to the new graveled site. There was mention in the OMGA newsletter, *The Gardener's Pen*, about the greenhouse project.

There is still one pile of dirt that needs to be moved before the plant sale. All of the construction materials have been moved except the large pallet, which will be moved soon.

New Business

Plant Sale (LJ): They have had a seed starting party at the greenhouse. There was one that people had signed up for no one could make it.

Laurel had a potting party for the SWCD plants in the learning garden. There were only a couple of people, but they were able to finish. There will be a potting party tomorrow at Laurel's. No one has signed up for the potting party at Pat Schmucks so far, so Laurel may need to cancel. Shari, Eric, and Linda all committed to go.

Rachel noted that everyone should participate in the plant sale in some way.

Seed to Supper (Renee): The series has started. There were 12 people at the first one.

County Fair (Renee for Heidi): 4H thanked us for the support we gave them.

FISH Garden (Rachel): Ann Lameka was hired to fill Susan's garden coordinator position and she started Saturday. They are having work parties on Wednesdays from 3-5 and Saturdays from 10-noon.

Garden Visits (Kathy): The first garden visit is at Pat Morrison's on April 20 from 5:30 to 8. There is another in early June at Bill's in Parkdale.

Community Garden Network (Kathy): Kathy met with Annie McHale and Sally Stillman and they talked about the options. They are thinking about having two workshops and then a garden visit in the fall.

Library (Linda for Sue & Sue): A cleanup was held at the library garden.

Next Door/Raices (Kathy for Dennis): The shed will be moved to the dry land garden sit on Tucker Road. This project is putting together a youth garden and may put together an herb garden.

Parkdale Memorial Garden (Bill S): There was a work party a week ago. Bill has a list of 8 new Master Gardeners that expressed interest, but none came to that work party. They were able to get rid of the invasive trees. Another work party is coming up at 10am on Sunday. Kathy would like to arrange a garden visit there.

Garden Tour (Renee for Heidi): The first planning meeting is Thursday, April 9, at 5:30 at Heidi's.

Education Committee (Rachel): The Beer and Brassicas sessions have been scheduled and almost all of the speakers have been scheduled. As soon as that is complete, Margot is ready to create the flyer and start promotions. They will be using a PA system this year.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20.

Meeting minutes taken by Christie Bradley