

# **Central Gorge Master Gardener™ Association**

## **Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

Held via Zoom on Tuesday, February 10, 2021

Next meeting: Wednesday March 10, 2021, Virtual

**Attendees:** Bailey, Jean; Bosler, Eric; Bosler, Shari; Bradley, Christie; Dameier, Margo; Gehrig, Anne; Kilkenny, Barbara; Montag, Sandy; Rousseau, Sandi; Slagle, Nancy; Spezia, Barbara; Stevens, John; VanNatta, Anny; Wickersham, Megan; Winfield, Bill; Willis, Joanne

**Secretary's Report** (Christie): The minutes for January were approved.

**Treasurer's Report** (Sandi for Joanne): Barbara has stepped down as Treasurer and Joanne Willis will be the new treasurer for 2021. This was approved in the Executive Committee.

The signers for the checking account are as follows:

- John Stevens
- Joanne Willis
- Sandi Rousseau

The 2021 officers and Executive Committee members are as follows:

- Sandi Rousseau, President
- Anne Gehrig, President-Elect
- Sandy Montag, Past President
- Christie Bradley, Secretary
- Joanne Willis, Treasurer
- Barbara Kilkenny, OMGA rep;
- Anny VanNatta, Alternate OMGA rep.
- 5 Members at large
  - Jean Bailey
  - Eric Bosler
  - Shari Bosler
  - Margo Dameier
  - Bill Winfield

There was not a lot of activity this month and Joanne sent out the reports.

There are still some people who have not paid dues for this year and John and Sandi are determining who still needs to pay. We had 70 people who applied, but that number includes lifetime members. 34 people have sent in dues. Megan has a list of all the members and John has a list of who has paid.

Associates pay dues because they get to attend all of the classes they want. Their dues are the same as regular members. We used to differentiate the two on a budget line item, but that is not necessary anymore.

## **New Business**

**OSU / Extension** (Megan): We have 70 total members this year.

The final scheduled MGConnect is tonight and Megan will send out the Zoom link. Project leaders will be doing very quick presentations on their projects. We have had about 25 people attending each MG Connect, so far. The plant sale group asked for another MG Connect in early March to look at the videos they are creating for the Plant Sale.

They are making the OSU Extension educational recordings in Facebook Live because they have had so many people sign up. Megan will be sending out links about the webinars and where the recordings can be found. People can access the Facebook Live webinars regardless of whether they have a Facebook account.

There are metrics on whether or not attendees are Master Gardeners and what county they are in.

There is an upcoming diversity, equity, and inclusion class for volunteers coming up. These will also be available on the website. Megan wants us to focus on this area as a chapter.

We had talked about having additional community classes after the state ones are over. Megan will be putting together a tally of who is interested in various classes from the applications. Kris Schaedel is willing to do a weed class for the community. Megan also wants to see if Kris will do a native plant webinar. Maybe they would consider doing a native plants webinar before their sale.

Megan is trying to get the capability to add people who can edit the blog website, but was told they need to have an OSU account to do it. Megan may be linking to or adding the newsletters to the website and it would be good to

get people used to going to the blog for their newsletter. The link could be in Megan's update email.

In the plant clinic, Linda Kaufman is helping with questions that are coming in. Christie has been working on updates to the spreadsheet and has been working with Baker County to launch their virtual plant clinic.

Megan has been using an external camera, ring light, and microphone, and suggested that we purchase a set for the organization to use. The one Eric has does not have a tripod attachment. If we purchase one, it should be mountable on a tripod. And Eric's does not have a slider to close the camera. These could be used for things like Seed to Supper instructors in Zoom sessions. For the vignettes, we would be using cameras on the phone, and there is a ring light that you can use to enhance that video.

For the purchase of electronics, the Executive Committee pre-approved a total of \$300. We can use Megan's light and tripod before we get our own. Eric will do the investigation for the new equipment.

[Grow This - the Oregon Garden Challenge](#) is an opportunity for Master Gardener volunteers to demonstrate growing a flower and a vegetable from seed and then report back on how it went. You get volunteer hours for it. The sign-up deadline is February 19. Megan posted the following in the chat:

“From Brooke Edmunds ‘ If there are a lot of applicants from one county then there will be a random selection to see which of those MG's receive the free seeds. MG's that weren't selected to receive seeds will still be invited to contribute growing tips to the project in return for volunteer hours. This could work if the MG is already growing a veg garden. ”

**OMGA Report** (Barbara): Barbara got an email about the Silent Auction/Send a Friend committee who is looking for help input from MG groups. The Send a Friend fundraiser is for scholarships and assistance attending Mini College. They had several options for ways each group could participate. We approved the option to send a \$250 check. Joanne could add a new line item in the budget in case this comes up next year.

**Diversity Committee** (Barbara S): The Diversity Committee met. They discussed their impressions of what the group is doing. They want to expand to more communities and increase accessibility. They want to put together goals and they want to do a community needs assessment. They are no longer a committee, but are now an ongoing group. Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion is the new name of the group (JEDI). The goal is not just to focus on

a diversity project, but they have a goal of considering diversity, social justice, and other aspects in everything our MG group does.

Megan provided a link about [diversity in Hood River County](#). This can be used to understand diversity in the community.

**Plant Sale Update** (Christie): The plant sale has been doing a lot of work behind the scenes getting together the [inventory sheet](#). They hope to be able to start taking orders soon and scheduling activities like seed starting parties.

**Parkdale Memorial Garden** (Nancy): The Parkdale Garden had another car that drove through the garden and it did a lot of damage. They put in a request to the DOT that they put up a guard rail, but in past requests, the response was no. Bill S. is going to report the accident to the sheriff. DOT called Nancy during this meeting and they are sending the incident information to their district manager for investigation and to look into possible considerations to improve protection for the garden in the future.

**History** (Jean): Jean put together a summary of 2020 and wants to write a narrative about the year and include information about the pandemic. We discussed where various documents appear on the site. In the short term we probably need to find a place to put them and create links to them. In the meantime (while we are getting the administrative account set up), it might be better to upload them to the site.

She has folders for each project and will keep a history on each.

**Quarterly Meetings** (Sandi): We conducted a discussion on whether, when we do the MG Connects zoom meeting Wednesday, March 3, we could do the quarterly meeting on that same night. Sandi will send out the by-laws for review and we decided we will try to have an up/down vote at the March 3 MG Connects.

With no further business, the virtual meeting ended at 12:00.

Meeting minutes taken by Christie Bradley