

**Gwinnett County Master Gardeners Association
Board Meeting – Monday, March 10, 2014**

Attending:

Karen McGinty, Margaret Bergeron, Maggie Howze, Carol Hassell, Becky Wolary, Susan Hanson, Jackie Kujawa, Nancy Costello, Mary Ann Hindes

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**Approval of January 2014 Minutes**

January board meeting minutes are on our website under member board meeting. This had happened subsequent to the Executive Committee review, although Carol acknowledged they had not been circulated to full board after this review. Margaret made a motion to accept as presented; Jackie 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Reports of Officers**

**Finances and Membership Update – Maggie Howze**

Total in the association’s checking account: \$13,162; in the savings account: \$10,002.03.  
As of today: 162 paid members.

A brief discussion ensued about the procedure for reporting member renewals.

**Programs – Becky Wolary**

- The February Meeting’s auction yielded \$1,231. Becky noted she has already been asked about doing this again; the consensus was that we should undertake an auction only periodically since greater frequency in the past has resulted in less-than-desirable items in the auction with corresponding diminished interest.
- March meeting: Program will include results from the Photo Contest led by Don Stewart. Speaker will be Geri Laufer talking about herbs.
- The April and May meeting program have speakers lined up. Dr. Garten to speak on lotus and water gardens in October. Need three speakers to round out the year. Of particular urgency: A June speaker must be lined up in the next two weeks for timely publicity distribution. Mary Ann suggested Ellen Honeycutt, Past President of the Georgia Native Plant Society; she has a great program on native shrubs. Mary Ann also suggested Mary Jane Hagler. To alleviate this ongoing situation, Jackie made a motion to spend more on speakers than currently budgeted; Mary Ann 2<sup>nd</sup>; unanimously approved.

**Extension Office – Kathy Parent – not in attendance.**

**Committee Reports**

## **Education** – Mary Ann Hindes

- Don Stewart has agreed to do a May workshop on photography. Details to be forthcoming.
- Winnie White will do a Lavender wand workshop, but arrangements for obtaining lavender must be worked out since they will be gathered live at a North Carolina friend's garden.
- March 28 workshop: Bat house by Aaron and Jane Burke. At next Monday's general meeting, Mary Ann will bring a bat house to the March meeting highlight the announcement.
- Trying to contact Paul ---- of UGA to line up workshop on plant propagation. She has not received any response to several inquiries. The suggestion was made to have Robert Brannon contact him. Alternatives to conduct such a workshop: Jane Burke or Marlene Gillman could do this.
- Working on fall container planting workshop with Jessica Miller.

**Field Trips** – Debbie Parks – Not in attendance.

## **Grants** – Alice Verner

- The committee approved seven grants totaling around \$3,800. This grant cycle did not have a large amount of grant applicants. The committee consisted of Alice, Margaret, Becky, Genia Ryan and Bonnie Smolinski.
  - Since full amount budgeted was not granted, should we open up a fall grant period? How it might work: Use the remainder for a short fall period that would run from August (applications or proposals due by August 1) through November 15 with expenses submitted by November 1. MGEVs whose projects were given grants in the 2014 annual cycle cannot apply. Is this limitation applied to the MGEV or the project? Following discussion, the following was agreed by consensus: The total amount available to either an MGEV or a project is \$750 a year. Thus, this second round must be new grants that did not apply in the first. Alice said she would take on the second round. During the first week of May, Becky will announce the grant round covering the total budget item that is uncommitted.
- The Grants committee also discussed: Consider whether we want to increase scholarship amount at Gwinnett Tech by adding 2<sup>nd</sup> scholarship.

## **Historian** – Nancy Costello

Hasn't had any submissions of information or pictures to put on website. All she has are the pictures she herself took at the previous two meetings. Becky will walk her through preparing images for the website. Don may be willing to help prepare photo contest winners for the website banner. Don will load winners himself into PowerPoint presentation.

She needs articles. Mary Ann said she would write copy if Nancy takes pictures.

**Hospitality** - Terri Erwin not present

**Plant Sale** – Susan Hanson

Susan wonders if people are potting up plants – good quality that are doing well. She had specifically asked for butterfly garden plants. She needs purple coneflower. Jackie and Carol said they'd plant a few of these. Susan contacted Gail Holliman about coordinating a MG plant dig, but never heard back. Jackie volunteered to do list; as soon as plants are potted, send notice to Jackie. Herbs good; Hellebores ok since they are deer-resistant. Need to be potted by first of April. Jackie will be meeting with Marlene to get pots. Jackie getting feedback from a number of MGEVs about plants available.

Susan wondered about buying shrubs from a vendor: How much do we want to commit for selling in advance that are not pre-sold to interested members? Following discussion, the decision was made to schedule a committee meeting to discuss detail. She will determine what \$1,000 will buy, then report to EC, if more needed.

Maria Turk has large number of 1 gallon pots.

Set a date for committee meeting: after general meeting, but determine a date very shortly thereafter. Announce at meeting, along with procedure to pot plants and send notice to Jackie.

**Public Relations** – Faye Sisson not present

She is working on posters for plant sale.  
Publicity notices are going out as planned.

**Trainee Breakfast** – Karen McGinty

One down; three to go. She reported the committee has a table of 50 cent items and another table of \$1 items. Total to date: \$162 in food sales.

**Website** - Aaron Tulin not present

Becky got workshops up on website. Directory updated; password updated.

**Weed and Feed** – Jackie Kujawa

Scheduled: Georgia Nash's garden on 3-22; Gaye Bruce on 3-28; Jean Patterson on 4-4.

**New Business**

**Adjournment**

11:30 am.