

**Gwinnett County Master Gardener Association  
May 12, 2014 – Monday -- Board Meeting Minutes**

Attending:

Jackie Kujawa  
Susan Hanson  
Terri Ervin  
Alice Verner  
Maggie Howze  
Becky Wolary  
Faye Sisson  
Mary Ann Hindes  
Carol Hassell  
Tim Daly

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**Approval of March 2014 Minutes**

Jackie made motion to approve as presented; Faye seconded. Approved unanimously.

**Reports of Officers**

**Finances and Membership Update – Maggie Howze**

- The plant sale take totaled \$3,300 less \$300 for cash box; we netted \$2,062.05.
- Membership: 181 to date.
- \$15,408.46 in checking account. \$10,002.54 in the interest bearing account.

**Programs – Becky Wolary –**

- May – George Sanko (Ferns) He’s still on, although Becky has not been able to verify. She has a backup speaker in case George is not able to do the presentation.
- June – Rani Von Wurttemberg (Roses);
- July – Tony Gobert (The importance of buying and eating locally grown food products)
- August – Ellen Honeycutt (Native Shrubs of No. GA);
- September is thank-you picnic.
- October – Stephen Garten (Water Gardening/Lotus)

**Extension Office – Kathy Parent**

- Tim made several announcements in Kathy’s place: 2014 class of MG interns concluded about a month ago.
- Started farmers’ markets: Suwanee, Norcross, Grayson, Lawrenceville, Lilburn and Snellville.
- Tim looking to hear from MGs to work in office answering phone. May set up training class. Wants to get publications written. In response to a question from Maggie, he emphasized that we don’t do site visits to individual homes. Discussion about whether interns should be required to do in-office work. What about reinstating mentoring program; Tim has such a process ongoing with farmer’s market tables.

**Committee Reports**

### **Education – Mary Ann Hines**

- Jessica Miller will take over chairmanship next year.
- June workshop – Lavendar wands by Winnie White
- September workshop – Jessica will do container herb gardens.
- Lavender workshop will be at Mary Ann's home. She raised the idea of having workshops at individual member homes.

### **Field Trips – Debbie Parks**

- No report.
- No field trips scheduled at this point.

### **Grants – Alice Verner**

- Discussion: when to open the Fall grant period? (Because we didn't get response in spring round, but have the money, plan is to open to second round for shorter grant period)
- Becky suggested announcing first week of June for July 15 submission date. Committee meet end of July. Awards on Aug 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Faye noted that the Female Seminary needed larger amounts of money -- \$500 doesn't go very far. Becky noted that the grant maximum has gone up to \$750.

### **Historian – Nancy Costello.**

- No report.

### **Hospitality - Terri Erwin.**

- Picnic: next big event. Date: September 22. For dessert: cobbler and banana pudding. Last year, cake only.
- Terri will investigate additional supplies storage space at Bethesda Senior Center, so committee chair doesn't have to lug home.

### **Plant Sale – Susan Hanson**

- Discussion – recap. Susan provided thorough report on plant sale and results.
- Observations: probably wouldn't features shrubs again; perhaps higher individual cost of shrubs prevented people from purchasing. Requirement that plants be potted up well ahead of time was valuable. Pricing after setup was very helpful for organization, efficiency and to determine relationships. Becky suggested putting event report on Members Only section for future reference.
- Part of discussion centered on whether we do plant sale next year, garden tour, frequency and leadership required. Various comments centered on return of event vs. amount of effort and time required to make the event happen. In these comparisons, the plant sale seems to be a better undertaking.

### **Public Relations – Faye Sisson**

- Discussion about media placement results. Patches placement suggested; she did submit to Patches. Each outlet requires separate submission with no central submission contact. The issue with Patches sites is uneven management. Marlene Westrom has volunteered to help with placement in AJC and Gwinnett Daily Post.

**Trainee Breakfast – Karen McGinty**

- Karen and her committee will do the Intern breakfasts again next year.

**Website - Aaron Tulin**

- Becky updating content.

**Weed and Feed – Jackie Kujawa**

- Group worked in Genia Ryan's garden last Thursday – spruceup completed.
- If anyone else needs such help, Jackie needs to know.

**New Business**

- Discussion: Adopt-a-Mile Marathon – although we were invited to apply for this year's event, organizers have put in place new qualification requirements for nonprofit applicants – focus to be health or fitness. Should we apply? Consensus is to pass on this application.
- Whole Foods Market 5percent day: we are eligible for this next year.
- Referencing Faye's observation that \$500 isn't sufficient to accomplish anything much at the Female Seminary, a discussion: What about doing one large project involving the entire GCMGA membership? Such a project could center on the Female Seminary and/or the Adair House, located just to the rear of the Female Seminary. Elisha Winn House is another possibility. Such a project could involving the creation of an historically accurate garden are around the historic structure(s). Reaction of board members present seemed favorable.

**Adjourn:** 11:25 am..