

**Gwinnett County Master Gardeners General Board Meeting
April 22, 2016**

Meeting called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Carole Teja, President.

In attendance: Carole Teja, Jessica Miller, Virginia Schofield, Wes Nettleton, Becky Wolary, Shirley Bohm, Jackie Kujawa, Becky Panetta, and Faye Sisson. Also in attendance, Tim Daly, Gwinnett Extension Agent and guest, Margaret Bergeron, 2017 President-elect for Georgia Master Gardeners Association.

Minutes of the last General Board meeting on January 15, 2016 having been distributed via email, Jessica Miller moved they be accepted as submitted and motion was seconded by Becky Wolary. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Constitution Revision

All Board members received copies of proposed new Constitution.

As required by the 2009 Constitution, proposed changes to Constitution were read by the Recording Secretary. Following the reading, Becky Wolary, Chair of the Constitution Committee said the new constitution would be read at the May members meeting and voted on by email in June. According to the 2009 Constitution all certified Master Gardeners and current Interns who have paid membership dues are eligible to vote.

Votes will be emailed to Treasurer Nettleton and President Teja will assist in counting.

President Teja reported attending Georgia Master Gardeners Association meeting in McDonough and shared a brochure relating statistics of Master Gardener volunteer hours and their monetary value to the state. Importance of highlighting contribution of Gwinnett Master Gardeners was discussed. Shirley Cook is pricing aprons and will organize new orders.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jessica Miller shared list of Members Meeting Program plans for the remainder of 2016 with celebrity gardener, Felder Rushing, speaking in October.

She requested help from the Board in serving on the Nominating Committee or offering suggestions of others to serve.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Wes Nettleton reported revenue vs. expenses stating final adjustments would be made after Plant Sale at month's end. He stated that yard art and associated costs for plant sale would be broken out to provide future comparisons.

Current membership stands at 192.

Trainee breakfast brought in \$781. Of \$7500 budgeted for grants, \$4517 was awarded. All grants submitted were approved. Scholarship money has been disbursed to Gwinnett Tech.

RECORDING SECRETARY

No report

PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Covered in discussion on Constitution.

AGENT'S REPORT

Tim Daly thanked everyone for their hard work, but asked for more volunteers for the Speakers Bureau. Volunteers have been scheduled for 'Ask A Master Gardener' booths at farmers' markets in Grayson, Lilburn, Snellville and Suwanee. More locations may be added.

Extension Office has multiple areas of needed help from Master Gardener Volunteers.

Remaining Committee Chair Reports: President Teja thanked those who sent reports in advance. Work Shop and Field Trip reports were given by President Teja due to ill health of Chairs.

WORK SHOPS: Food Prep on May 23 and two Fall sessions at Gwinnett Tech on Small Engine Maintenance and Basic Landscaping. Susan Varlemoff hopes to resume her duties soon.

FIELD TRIPS: Oakland Cemetery Tour on June 1st, Gibbs Gardens in November and Governor's Mansion in December. Field Trip Chair Maria Alleyne will not be able to continue. Virginia Houghtaling, 2016 Intern will take over.

WEED AND FEED - Jackie Kujawa : Scheduled for Jean Patterson, May 4. Del Old declined offer with thanks.

PUBLIC RELATIONS - Faye Sisson: Various monthly emails and publications being used to inform about Master Gardener meetings. Jessica Miller and Marlene Westrom were thanked for their assistance publicizing Plant Sale.

PLANT SALE/HOSPITALITY - Shirley Bohm: Plant Sale in one week. Plans going well with record numbers of plants and volunteers.

Hospitality Committee doing well. Awards Banquet was a success with great food and decorations.

Fee for tour of McDaniel Farm Park at members Fall Picnic was discussed. Kathy Parent will negotiate.

PROJECT GRANTS: (Chair Rosalie Tubre unavailable)

Grants awarded: Vines Botanical Gardens - \$600; Mary Kistener Center - \$400;

Hamilton Mill Public Library - <\$400; Lady Bug's Garden Pollinator - \$_____;

Camp Creek Elementary School - \$600; Southeast Community Garden - \$600; Snellville Community Greenhouse - \$518; Lilburn Post Office - \$600; McDaniel Farm Park - \$600.

Committee has revisited grant guidelines and Executive Committee will review.

HISTORIAN - Lori Prosser: In Lori's absence her report was read. Photos of the 2016 Intern class were taken in January and emailed to participants. Photos have been taken of last two meetings and Awards Luncheon. Members were encouraged at April meeting to submit to Lori photos of any projects or events they participated in. iPhone photos are fine. Website to be updated soon.

PHOTO CONTEST - Becky Panetta: deadline for submissions to photo contest is June 5. Workshop on

photo submissions is still possible - May date to be determined.

TRAINEE BREAKFAST - Karen McGinty and her committee will be rotating off. Robert Ayer will chair next year assisted by other 2016 Interns. This years breakfasts were a great success with \$727.79 realized.

This concluded committee reports.

Shirley Bohm asked if Gardener to Gardener sale at State Fairgrounds would take place again this year. Vines Botanical Garden had a very successful booth last year. Carole Teja will look in to feasibility of partnering with the Koi Club in this endeavor again.

NEW BUSINESS

President Teja introduced Margaret Bergeron, incoming President of Georgia Master Gardener Association, 2017. GMGA would like Gwinnett County Master Gardeners Association to host the State Conference in 2017. Robert Brannen, Gwinnett County Extension Coordinator is on board with the plan. Gwinnett Technical College is a possible location. Motion to host the 2017 Conference was made by Jackie Kujawa and seconded by Jessica Miller. After discussion, motion carried unanimously. Committee will need to be formed to plan conference. Margaret Bergeron encouraged Board members to attend planning meetings for this 2016 Conference to be held in Carrollton, GA, Sept. 30-Oct. 1.

Bergeron then reported on grants awarded by GMGA. One of the 17 grants awarded went to Jackie Kujawa for the Rose Garden at Vines Botanical Gardens. She also encouraged Board members to send her any news items relating to Gwinnett Master Gardeners to be included on GMGA website.

President Teja clarified that the next General Board meeting will be July 7, 2016 at 10:30 a.m.

At 12:18 p.m. Jackie Kujawa moved meeting be adjourned, seconded by Faye Sisson.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Schofield, Recording Secretary