

Gwinnett County Master Gardener's Association
Board of Directors Meeting
April 11, 2022

Meeting was called to order at 9:09 a.m by Lynda Pollock. Bethesda Senior Center Conference Room. Some members attended virtually(v).

ATTENDEES

Present: President Lynda Pollock, Vice President Margaret Molyson, Treasurer Jack Bolton, Past President Virginia Schofield, Secretary Karen McGinty, Committee Chairs: Amber Malloy(v), Becky Panetta, Becky Wolary(v), Martha Whitman, Robert Ayer, Shirley Bohm, Susan Kosenka
Absent: Aaron Tulin, Alice Verner, Freda Steward, Jane Trentin, Jessica Miller, Judith Adams, Sonya Lee, Susan Hanson, Tabitha Potter, Tonya DeLozier
Guests: Tim Daly(v), Lisa Klein(v), Cindy Lubowicki(v)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

Minutes of the January 10th, Board of Directors Meeting were approved with no objections. Jack motioned to approve, Martha seconded, followed by no discussion

Treasurer's Report – Jack Bolton,

Account Balances:
Checking Account \$3,023.78
Savings Account \$8,023.78

We are in good shape for the year. Next month will have significant income with the Plant Sale and the Garden Tour.

Membership – 157 members paid and complimentary. Including 18 complimentary memberships for interns.

9 approved grants awarded for \$4,200.

EXTENSION REPORTS

Tim Daly – I will be leaving Gwinnett County, at the end of April, and will be the head AG Agent at Henry County. I will be commuting from Gwinnett County. Please call and come visit, located at Heritage Park in Henry County.

Farmer's Market – Cindy Lubowicki will be taking on this task and organizing the volunteers.

Lisa Klein – Awards Ceremony on April 26th at J.B. Williams Park Pavillion, 11 a.m.

This Wednesday the 2020/2021 trainee classes are going to the Atlanta Botanical Gardens and listen to Scott McMahon, enjoy a box lunch, and wander the gardens.

Will be sending out a volunteer newsletter seeking volunteers by the end of the week.

Cindy Lubowicki – Taking on the Farmer's Market, in need of Captains for each location, would welcome any volunteers for that, and looking forward to being at the Markets.

Lynda will include that in her next e-mail.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS, continued

President's Report – Lynda Pollock

Garden Tour – Kelly needs angels for her garden, please pass on.

Plant Sale – Waiting to hear from the table people. One day rental, deliver at 3 on Friday, pickup at 3 Saturday.

Friday April 29th – afternoon, Set-up tents, tables
4 p.m. – Accept and organize plants

Saturday April 30th – 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.– final set-up
8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. MG Sale
9:00 a.m. – Public Sale

Need a tent frame for project posters, MG info table will be next to it.

Tables will need to be spread out more.

Soil Cube will have a tent, bring a bucket to help empty Cube at the end of the day.

Native vs Non-native. We are not limiting ourselves to native plants only, but non-native invasive species are not welcome. But we are encouraging people to plant more natives.

We need to work on publicity, Lilburn-Tucker Upclose mailer included an article on both the Plant Sale and the Garden Tour, with Lynda on the cover.

Price points for plant sale, \$2,4,6,8, and 10. MG's can shop early, but they cannot hold onto plants until end of the day to get half price. No guarantee that half price will happen. If sales are brisk, half price sales may not happen. Possibly half-price table.

MG tech person to run technology at the meeting. Ed B, who helped search for a sound system, donated a new portable Vortex system which comes with a stand. He is still looking for a camera (which we will invoice) for recording meetings for zoom and have members that are housebound able to watch.

Vice President's Report – Margaret Molyson

April 18th – Melanie Furr, Director of Education at Georgia Audubon, **A Year in the Life of a Hummingbird**

May 16 – Rose Guerra – Naturalist – **Dragonflies 101**

June 20th – Karin Hicks, Master Gardener Coordinator North East District, **Hedgerows**

July 18 - **Photo Contest Results**

August 18 – Danna Cain, ASLA – Home and Garden Design, Inc – **Color, Form, and Texture**

September – **Member Appreciation Picnic**

October 17 – Olivia Menard, retired engineer – **Mason Bees**

November 21 – **Holiday Party**

December – **No meeting**

January 16, 2023 – Ironwood Tools - possible
February 20, 2023 – Bonsai- Jeff Smith - Possible

Possible future Water Garden speakers, Robin Scott, Atlanta Bot. Garden, Emily Eberhardt

Needs to Organize Nominating Committee to begin search for Vice President.

Past President – Virginia Schofield

Soil Cube owes us our first quarterly check. The code GCMGA2022 is good all year for purchasing cubes. We also, have an option to buy smaller bags for pick up at the Soil Cube location with portion of the proceeds coming back using the code. Need to check with Soil Cube about what we should do with the empty bags.

Great field trip to Athens with Dr. Smalley of the North Campus Arboretum, original Garden Clubs of America Members garden tour. It would be great if we could do a tour of the South Campus. He requested that his payment for speaking and the tour would be an honorarium to the Georgia Arboretum. A payment of \$200 was agreed upon.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education/Workshops – Jessica Miller, absent – no report.
Discussion, possible gourd workshop in October.

Field Trips – No Chair.

Grants – Martha Whitman

Thirteen grant applications were received in January. Nine of those projects met the guideline qualifications. In February these 9 projects were funded for a total of \$4,195. The projects are:

Berkeley Lake Pollinator Garden
Discovery High School Irrigation Protection
Georgia Piedmont Land Trust Bluebird House Pole and Baffle Workshop
Grace new Hope Church Berry and Grape Area
McDaniel Farm Vegetable Garden
SE Gwinnett Food Co-op Vegetable Beds
Snellville Community Garden ID Signs for Calendar Garden
Vines Garden Refurbishing Pappy's Garden
Vines Harvest Gwinnett Garden Vegetable Plants

Posters of last year's projects have been displayed at some meetings and will be on display at the plant sale.

Will bring clamps to Plant Sale to help hold posters to tent frame.

Blue Bird Mounting Workshop with Carol Hassell at Snellville Community Garden, May 24.

Garden Tour – Susan Hanson, absent.

We plan to finish the ticket and have it printed to hand out at the meeting next week. Last year they printed 250 tickets and they ran out. Jane and I discussed and thought we should order 300 tickets. Kathy Hartman volunteered to send email to those who bought tickets online.

Discussion, several gardens are in need of volunteer help. Including Jane Matthews and Kelly B.

Historian – Freda Steward, absent. Nothing to report. Send her pictures!

Hospitality – Alice Verner

Hospitality is preparing for the general meeting on April 18. Board needs to discuss if we will be having a pot luck or not. Either way we will be prepared. Just let me know what is decided.

We are also working on the Awards lunch on April 26. We plan to set up and decorate as we have done in the past.

It was decided that we will continue with the brown bag dinner and bring individually wrapped desserts to share for April and May, and hopefully return to potluck for the June meeting.

Photo Contest – Sonja Lee, absent. No report.

Becky posted updated rules for 2022 on the member site.

Plant Sale – Susan Kosenka and Lynda Pollock

Additional discussion. People need to send in their list of plants. We need wagons, and volunteer sign-up sheets. Lynda will set-up sign-up zone app online and volunteer sheets will be at the meeting on Monday.

Publicity – Judy Adams, new chair, absent.

Will start on publicity as soon as possible.

Trainee Breakfast – Robert Ayer

The GCMGA Trainee Breakfast Committee and I are still looking forward to the possibility of having an MG Trainee Class this year (2022), when our breakfast and lunch committee activities will resume.

**Committee members: Robert Ayer, Debra Hoakes, Jean Shapiro, Kathy Pittman, Mary Ann Hindes and Greg Mauldin. *Marcia Lambert has moved, returning back home to Texas.

Webmaster – Becky Wolary

The website is current with updated and revised information on programs through May, the plant sale and the garden tour.

Password has been changed. Up-to-date membership list has been loaded to the members only side of the website.

I did the research on 2020 garden tickets and 100 tickets were bought online.

Garden Tour tickets are now live. 1-6 Tickets can be purchased at a time. Jack will purchase a ticket as a practice run and the ticket will be used as a door prize at Monday's meeting.

Weed and Feed – no chair.

Discussion, it has been a long time since we had a weed and feed. Becky explained that a Weed and Feed is for an MG who has difficulties working in their yard, MG's would come work in that yard for a few hours in the morning and the host would then serve lunch to those who helped.

Lynda will readvertise for both Weed and Feed Chair and Field Trip Chair and explain what the Weed and Feed is about.

Seed Exchange – Becky Panetta

I will go to the Extension and check out the shutters and see what we can put in there.

Seeds at the Adair Fair in Lawrenceville went quickly. Maybe we could have them at the Farmer's Market, I will talk to Cindy.

Discussion, possibility of seeds at the MG table at the Plant Sale. Becky will decide on how to distribute, based on purchaser's receipt and number of seed packets available.

Newsletter/Bit of Dirt – Shirley Bohm

The last newsletter was issued on January 15, 2022 to 171 subscribers with a 72% open rate.

We are in the process of doing the final proofreading and checking if people who have paid their GCMGA dues since January 15th are already on the mailing list or if they are new members. The Spring issue of Bit of Dirt will issue on April 15th.

We would appreciate it if members would notify us of things occurring in the next 6 months for our "Coming Events" section of the newsletter - meetings, workshops, field trips, and more.

Articles from all our members are welcome too.

Facebook/Digital Information/Social Media – Tabitha Potter, absent. No report.

Discussion, is Facebook linked to Instagram?

Old New Business –

Virginia would like to see more than 2 weeks between the Plant Sale and the Garden Tour in the future, completely understanding the dates for this year.

Discussion, possible dates would include the first Saturday in June or the first Saturday after Memorial Day.

Garden Tour being held every other year.

Kelly B will not be home for the Garden Tour. She will need help from MGs to monitor her garden.

Invite all the Garden hosts to speak at the meeting on Monday to encourage volunteers.

Slow Pour will be the Will-Call location for the Garden Tour. Tickets will be available at all locations.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned

Next EC Meeting will be May 9th, at 10 a.m., 4th floor conference room, extension office.

Next BOD Meeting will be July 11th, at 10 a.m., 2nd floor conference room, extension office.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen McGinty,
April 14th, 2022