



Master Gardener Foundation of Kitsap County

*Promoting long term environmental health
through sound and sustainable horticultural practices*

*The purposes of this non-profit Foundation are solely educational
and charitable to enhance and supplement the effort of the WSU
Master Gardener Program and thereby provide education and
information to the citizens of Kitsap County.*

Master Gardener Foundation Kitsap County

Minutes for Wednesday, February 3, 2009

Call to order

President, Becky Croston called the regular monthly Master Gardener Foundation board meeting to order at 1:05 PM on Wednesday, February 3, 2010, at the Meadowdale Fire Station, Bremerton, WA. Guests were welcomed to the meeting.

Board members in attendance were: Becky Croston, President, Roland Malan, Vice President, Fred Abrahamson, Treasurer, Arlene West, Secretary. Members at Large: Martha Alexander, Jim Rodman and Mary-Cathern Edwards. Peg Tillery and Arno Bergstrom from the Extension office were in attendance.

Members in attendance were: Ray Etheredge, Sharron Etheredge, Cat Ross, Donna Hamilton, Georgie Pulliam, Joan Tootle, Lois Maynard, Dorothy Crouch, Virginia Jones, Isabel Van Valey, Christina Nelson, Debra Ady, Chrissy Petoff, Sandy Livermore

Reports and Announcements

Secretary's Report Arlene West

Martha Alexander moved that the minutes of the January meeting be accept as written. The motion was seconded by Fred Abrahamson. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report – Fred Abrahamson

Report as Submitted:

Master Gardeners Foundation Kitsap County February 3, 2010

Treasurers Report

Provided by Fred Abrahamson, Treasurer
Through 1/31/2010:

1. The checking balance is \$21,684.60
2. The savings balance is \$657.85
3. The combined CD balance is \$20,429.09

Our overall cash resource is \$42,771.54

Breakdown of CD's

Kitsap Bank (131) 7/7/10 = \$2,558.38

Kitsap Bank (133) 4/6/10 = \$4,684.89

Kitsap Bank (136) 9/14/09 = \$8,185.82

Kitsap Bank (137) 2/5/10 = \$5,000.00 "Action to be taken by Becky"

Comments: January brought in some income, which the Board had not anticipated:

- The 2010 Calendar brought in \$2,353.13 in revenue. The Board anticipated only \$500 of calendar revenue for the entire year. This additional revenue helps reduce our 2010 anticipated shortfall.
- We received a very nice "PROGRAM" donation of \$900 from Doug and Pam Jennings. These dollars are donated to help support the Olalla Garden. This additional revenue also helps reduce our 2010 anticipated shortfall. A donation form has been sent to the Jennings thanking them for their donation.

Calendar update:

The total revenue from the 2010 Calendar Fund Raiser is \$31,953.08 giving us net revenue of \$5,167.43 after all costs are considered.

It was moved by Fred Abrahamson that the Master Gardener Foundation of Kitsap County move its banking functions from Kitsap Bank to the Kitsap Credit Union as soon as possible. Motion was seconded by Arlene West. Motion carried. (One abstained vote.) (Roland Malan)

Recap of the above motion and the actions to be taken:

It was moved, seconded and past at the regular February 3, 2010 meeting by the Board of Directors that the Master Gardener Foundation of Kitsap County move its banking functions from Kitsap Bank to the Kitsap Credit Union as soon as possible. The Board authorized President Becky Croston to move on or after February 5, 2010 CD # 0133999137 in the amount of \$5,000 plus interest to checking account # 013399911 and also CD# 0133999131, CD # 0133999133, and CD# 0133999136 as they mature. Treasurer, Fred Abrahamson, will begin making the changes as soon as possible and is hereby authorized to open the new account at the Kitsap Credit Union and begin an orderly closing of the Kitsap Bank Accounts.

Financial Discussion:

Additional budget information:

Rental of the Eagles Nest for the Seminars will be much lower than anticipated. Instead of the 50% cost quoted the amount will be \$105 for the whole seminar season, which is only 20% of the cost.

The Van Zee building for the plant sale will be \$150 instead of the anticipated \$750.

Horticulture Report: Peg Tillery, Extension
Report as Submitted:

WSU Ext Hort Report to MGFKC for February 3, 2010

The following are statistics from the yearly 2009 Report of the WSU Extension Master Gardener Program Impacts at the state level (36 counties combined) - In addition what our Kitsap WSU MG Volunteer Educators did is stated and underlined.

Master Gardeners provide outreach for Washington State University Extension. We are trained by WSU with research-based information to be community educators.

There are nearly 5,000 (4,945) Master Gardeners working all over WA state. **270 are in Kitsap County.**

In spite of budget difficulties, we have maintained a presence in 36 counties.

All volunteers in our program sign on to help people in our communities be successful at growing their own food, donating to food banks, protecting natural resources like water and wildlife, and saving money or learning marketable skills.

In 2009, Master Gardeners responded to the large increase in the number of people wanting to grow their own food by

- Teaching thousands of first-time gardeners how to garden and save money on grocery bills during tough economic times
- Helping gardeners donate 108 tons(!) of fresh produce to local food banks and community kitchens **(Kitsap MG efforts resulted in 7500 lbs of fresh produce to local food banks and community kitchens)**
- Starting 1,081 school gardens to teach garden-based nutrition to children, many of whom qualify for free and reduced lunches
- Granting over \$30,000 to start new community gardens
- Reaching over 117,519 adults and nearly 4,000 youth with best practices for healthy gardens **(Kitsap MGs reached 115 additional contacts in 2 p-patch gardens on a weekly basis throughout April through October (mentoring, educating and coordinating) plus 55 contacts who took an Organic Gardening Course over 4 weeks and were mentored through the 2009 growing season.)**

Also in 2009, Master Gardeners helped residents save money and protect the abundant natural resources of our state by teaching them to

- Use proper tree care methods for municipal trees representing millions of dollars in investments
- Control soil erosion to protect salmon habitat
- Reduce amount of pesticides and fertilizers that find their way to surface and ground water

- Reduce water use for landscapes by using the right plants for local sites
- Eliminate the threat of invasive species (weeds and insects)
- Diagnose pests and problems correctly and BEFORE they threaten natural ecosystems
- **Kitsap MGs contributed 20,500 hours with 13,900 direct contacts**

Legislative days for MG's are in Olympia on February 10th. It was noted that the Foundation should make them aware that we are working hard to contribute to the MG program through fundraising and hours.

2010 Calendar FUNdraiser: Cat Ross, Chair
Report as submitted:

Gardeners At Play 2010 Calendar Final Report

Thanks to absolutely everyone that has had anything to do with the making, promotion, gala, and sales & distribution of the MGF Fundraiser *Gardeners At Play 2010* Calendar. The IT's ALL OVER pot luck party has been held and it was phenomenally fantastic. 50 folks were in attendance and shared their best memories of the calendar events. All 3 of our artists were present and publicity guru from WSH&G magazine along with the Mayor of Port Orchard, models and workers and many thanks to Dick Lund and his family for hosting the event.

For the most part everyone mentioned how much fun they had. Many stated that they would like to do a Gala style event again. Many wished there was more support from all the MG's in the program and not just the few. Since all the money goes to the program it is suggested that the MGF works diligently at obtaining assistance from all MG's in future fundraisers since all MG's benefit from the money earned in support of the Program. A hand in hand effort would be nice.

As I mentioned last month that I would suggest a sales technique for any future fundraiser; it was suggested here at a board meeting that had every MG been given a number of calendars to sell we may have sold more. This is a very true statement and work should be done to see that it is implemented in any other fundraising efforts. Fundraising is too large a purpose for support to leave it to the few to handle all events they will burn out eventually. Coordination between the Program and Foundation MUST move in one direction and not be so antagonistic when it comes to money raising support efforts. To whit the incoming class had we sold to them in November when they came in for their first interview session would most likely have purchased more than the 4 calendars the 3 members did on 22 January 2010. That is a sad but true point that even our own MG's did not purchase the calendar to support the cause. MG's did not support the Gala either had it not been for community contacts by some of our MGF members the Gala would not have been so well attended. One can not belong to a service organization without the understanding that it takes fundraising to keep it going. This should somehow be incorporated into the Programs education purpose. Clinics cost money that has to come from somewhere. The point is very clear the MGF and MG's in general need to understand the purpose of raising funds to keep all portions of the gardening education in the county supplied with the funds it needs.

By January 31 2010 all case coordinators collected their calendars from our vendors and turned in most of their money to the treasurer. We do have a few outstanding checks and collections that need to be finalized. Money is trickling in from additional sales. Professional Distributors should be sending final checks in March or April 2010.

A garden blogger Kathryn Hall from California contacted us and has our calendar as part of her blog she is a publicist and just found us delightful. She claims 27,000 visitors per month. You can read and view the blog at: www.plantwhateverbringsyoujoy.com we are archived under People at Play. Of course thanks to some of our ingenious folks we are all over facebook.

The calendar has cleared all its costs and made a profit thanks to the calendar premier gala which was the debut promotion of the calendar therefore a profit was made by the calendar fundraiser events.

It is at the suggestion of the team that the MGF continue to promote the MG Program in the community by following through with the invites to join the 2010 Whaling Days Parade and trimming a tree at Retsil Veterans Home for 2010 holidays. Any other parades in the community both north and south would be a bonus for promotion of both the MGF and MG Program in the community, handing out seed packets printed with the MGF logo and planting instructions would be great promotion.

We had approximately 600 calendars turned in from case coordinators and they were distributed as follows:

Calendar workers were offered copies for their yet unborn grandchildren so they can have a copy in the future of a great project they once worked on.

Becky holds 91 of the 2006 Gardening Au Naturel for posterity or collector's sales
93 of the 2010 Gardeners At Play for posterity

Sandy Livermore holds a number of each for any internet website, PayPal sales in the future

Jack & Donna Hamilton took 200 to distribute to Realtors in the area for new home buyers

Fred Abrahamson has 200 so that they can be distributed via the board and those present to Chamber of Commerce offices around the county so please take them and distribute with our compliments.

This is a personal suggestion: come 2011 with each new class if someone were to print out calendar pages to recycle, renew, and reuse and offer each class member a collection of some of each calendar to keep track of their MG events and hours that would use up the left over calendars and there would be no issue with storage after a couple of classes. It also would not hurt to have a few at the 2010 Plant sale for those that may have just missed it completely. Have those available at the cashiers and be sure they ask do you want one?

Arlene West, Secretary
February 3, 2010

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A few members of the board last month said they would write letters of appreciation to the WSH&G magazine to thank Wet Apple Media I hope that has been accomplished.

We received a thank you from the White House for the calendars they received.

It has been 2 years and 7 months or just 31 months of fun-filled tasks that took us in directions we would never have thought of and the experiences according to those at the IT's ALL OVER party were all great future memories and stories to talk about. It took an entire team of 87 MG's and MGF members that assisted with the calendar in one way or another, in addition to the 41 local vendor businesses. Each of which will receive a certificate of appreciation.

Counts are approx as tally sheets were lost, case coordinators didn't always remember to tally up so as close as we can come to numbers distribution is:
APPROX.

1,700 Sold at event venues

1,400 Sold by local vendors and MGF members

500 given to Professional Distributors

25 Damage or lost 2 w/o pages 4 water damage 19 taken without payment

1,325 Donated including donations to raffles and those sent out for promotion & thanks to vendors

4,940 Total

Keeping track of this was not as easy as we all thought it would be; people in this organization are not quick to report numbers the are certainly not bean counters unless it is on the vine in poundage for the food bank. Knowing then what we know now we should have weighted the calendars! That's a joke folks

Current total amount income according to Treasurer Report: \$ 32K+ (see report for breakdowns)

Thank you again to each and every person no matter how small job they did, that helped make this a successful fundraiser. Thank you to the main team that saw it through to the end it has been a pleasure of untold days of laughter and fun.

Plant Sale Report: Becky Croston

Report as submitted

Feb. 3, 2010, Master Gardener Foundation of Kitsap County Plant Sale Report to the Board

Jan. 7 meeting 1-3pm at Fire station 51: Silverdale Way.

Present were: Becky Croston: Chair, Gary Gratrix, Sheri Kiley, Sandy Livermore, Christa Akers, and Georgie Pulliam.

Our sub-committee chairs are: Chrissy Petoff: Salvage Team leader, Georgie Pulliam: Volunteer Coordinator, Sheri Kiley: gloves and coordinating team for growing veggies at Foxglove Nursery, Gary Gratrix: native plants and tomatoes, Sandy Livermore: publicity.

Location: Parks and Rec. finally sent our final contract for the use of the Van Zee building. Instead of full price: \$750, or half price (as rumored) : \$375, they have graciously charged only \$150 total, Due May 3rd.

There will be no charge for tables/chairs, but no word on a charge for signage. Those forms are due in April.

Press: we found out last year that the financial situation has made the press “iffy” about publishing community notices “for free.” (We submitted, they chose to bump us.) So, we will be paying for press this year, but will keep the costs reasonable.

WestSound Home and Gardens: Jane Bedinger has our ad in by the deadline. Peg Tillery is going to focus her article in this mag. on “hostas” in time for the sale, to promote interest.

”Mentor” signs: Jackie Aitchison: Poulsbo contact, and Joyia Rubens: Bremerton contact. Gary in charge.

Mini posters: Gary: we have enough left over from last year.

Bookmarks: Becky has a box of 165 of them from last year, to get to Extension for the clinic boxes. (Wayne Tysver made up single-sided ones, but then we decided to print others with the Calendar info on the other side.)

3’ by 10’ Banner: Arlene will bring it to Becky at the Feb. Foundation meeting. It was used in the parade.

A-Boards: are at Anna Smith. Gary will have Christa help move them early in the morning.

Road-side signs: they are to be put out about 10 days ahead of the sale. Several MG’s have them.

Natives: Gary led a discussion of what to order, with help from John Mikesell’s advice, and the new order form. Hemlock is always asked for, but is not for sale by the Conservancy, so we could use donations.

Gloves: Becky will let Sheri know how many we have left over from 2009. No better source was found than the great Seattle one Sheri found for last year.

Veggies: Sheri reported that Dave Halsaver of Foxglove Nursery will grow our veggies again, at minimal cost, and Kim Schleiss’s Rookie group may be the “Foxglove Team” under Sheri’s guidance. The basil sold well, and we did sell some peppers. The bulk will be tomatoes though.

Displays/Tables: we will have Dana Coggon doing Noxious Weeds again, and John Mikesell coordinating the Native Plant area. There will be a MG Clinic table again, with reference materials.

Certificates: Arlene West, our Foundation secretary, worked up a “master” certificate that can be edited as needed, and we should use these for “thank yous” to those who donate “above and beyond.”

Resale exemption certificate: Gary needed two copies for buying soil and native plants, so Becky gave him hers to copy. (Becky needs another one, Fred...) Sheri will need a copy for buying gloves.

Other ideas:

Merchandise: Christa and Becky worked after the meeting on the idea of selling small containers of slug bait (“safe” such as “Sluggo,”) but we determined after checking around that we could not get it at a good-enough price wholesale, with shipping, to hassle with. For example, Ace/Mclendons in Pt. Orchard said the best they could do is sell it to us for \$7.49 each for a case of 12, when the retail is \$8.99. They are heavy, a chemical, so shipping would be costly from another source in our small order. Becky will see if a company would be willing to donate some.

Bags of Compost: Becky will ask if North Mason Fibre would donate some bags for us to sell, right out of the back end of a truck in front of the building, for ease of loading.

”Soil Science Products”: Becky will ask if Nick Penovich (formerly “the Lawn Jockey”) would donate some of his new, special fertilizer blends for us to re-sell as a promotion for his business.

”Drawing”: we can have a “drawing” but not a “raffle” (by name), without a gambling license. It was suggested we have a drawing for maybe a rain barrel, but those with Plant Sale experience agreed that this is not the venue for such a thing. People want to buy their plants and go home. We can’t even get their attention diverted to looking at anything but plants (such as compost bins and aprons.)

Newsletter article: Becky got a blurb to Dennis Kimbrough, our new Editor, on January 10th.

Treasurer’s role: Sandy (our past Trs.) will work with Fred Abrahamson, (new Trs.) on what will be needed for the sale.

Pot-Up at Anna Smith: set for Saturday, March 6, 9:30 am. Gary will pick up the order of natives, and people should bring their plants to be potted up, and the Salvage Team can plan to coordinate with this work-party.

Soil: Gary will have "7 way mix" at Anna Smith for the potting-up. We will spread the word asking for one-gallon or larger pots to be donated, taken to the gardens for MG's to use.

Future meetings: will be the First Thurs. of March, April, and then only May 27th for the "wrap-up."

Locations: Firestation 51 (booked thru April.)-----end-----

State Foundation -Roland Malan

(oral report)

The State Foundation will begin to provide fundraising for the overall Master Gardener Program to WSU for program development and associated costs.

Seminar Report: Sharron & Ray Etheredge, and M.J. Tyler

Report as submitted

Most of the seminar speakers have been scheduled as submitted in last months report.

The seminars will be held at the Eagles Nest.

New Business:

The current Communications Policy and Policy for Board Meeting Management will be addressed at our March meeting as they are subject to review."

Membership Policy:

A policy committee of Becky Croston, Mary-Cathern Edwards, DeLona Kent, and Sharon Howard, with advice from a highly-experienced Bob Edwards, created a draft of a never-before-had "Membership Policy," and worked up up-dates and edits to the 2009 Membership and Associate Membership Applications.

Membership Policy: After review and discussion, **Martha Alexander moved that we accept the policy as written except remove the "expire" date, and change "must be reviewed" to "should be reviewed."** Roland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Copies will be provided to the Board at the March meeting.

Membership forms:

New Membership or Renewal application

Because our Horticulture Coordinator has informed us that "Interns" are now considered by WSU to be "Master Gardeners" in the eyes of "L & I" for insurance purposes, this form will now read "For current Master Gardeners (and Interns) only--" We will also

add: "Per the Universal Declaration of Human Rights Article 20:2, "no one may be compelled to belong to an association," you must declare your intent to join, and must renew every year to stay current, and the cut-off date for voting and Board eligibility is May 15th." We will eliminate "Greenhouse Search" and Speaker Series" and add "Fundraising." We will also add "This form is also available at www.kitsapgardens.org" and our address will be changed to our PO Box.

It should be noted that the Horticultural Coordinator, Peg Tillery indicated that the Program and Foundation should be working together as a team to obtain the goals of the Program. Program volunteers should be encouraged to become Foundation members and volunteer their time toward the Foundation activities that they are interested in. Also interns will be encouraged to become Foundation members during the course of the Program training by both Program and Foundation personnel.

Martha Alexander motioned that we accept the changes as stated. Roland Malan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Associate Membership or Renewal application

We will add the same sentence as above about the "UDHR," and add the website and PO Box info as above. **Martha Alexander moved that we accept the changes as stated. Fred Abrahamson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Honorary Member status: it was agreed by the Board that this should be added to the By-Laws under "membership," wording to be suggested by committee.

Nominating Committee-Ex-Officio Jim Rodman

Julie Rhee, Judith Martin and Monica Goldsberry will make up the nominating committee have volunteered for the Committee, and additional members are being sought. It was suggested that each garden leader would be a good resource to recommend people to the nominating committee.

Donation Form Revisions:

Fred Abrahamson moved that we accept the Donation / Contribution form as read. Roland Malan seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

It was suggested that PayPal should be an option for payment on the form.

Receipt of Donation acknowledgement Form:

It was moved by Roland Malan that we accept the form as presented by Becky with changes discussed. Fred Abrahamson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business for March Meeting for Agenda:

Arlene West, Secretary
February 3, 2010

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- # 1 Massage Fundraiser in conjunction with Kingston Crossing Massage
- # 2 On-Line-Auction fundraiser
- # 3 Discussion Peg Tillery installed as Ex-officio / advisor

Meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM