

Master Gardener Foundation Kitsap County

DRAFT Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 4 2007

I. Call to order

TR Strong called to order the regular meeting of the **Master Gardener Foundation of Kitsap County** at 1:04 PM on **Wednesday, April 4, 2007** at the **Eagles Nest, Kitsap Fairgrounds, Bremerton, WA.**

Board members in attendance: TR Strong, President; Sharon Howard, Vice President; Sandy Livermore, Treasurer; Mary-Cathern Edwards, Secretary; Directors at Large; Georgene Smith, Ray Etheridge and Marialis Jurges. Also in attendance: Becky Croston, Wayne Tysver, Al McKibben, Sharron Etheridge, Gary Gratrix, Roland Malan, DeLona Kent, Donna Hamilton and Catyn Ross.

The minutes of the March 7, 2007 meeting were approved.

Reports and Announcements

Treasurer's Review

Treasurer's Report

April 1, 2007

Well, the checking account is under \$1000. We have a CD that matures on April 6th so I plan to move \$4000 if that is okay with the Board. We should be getting somewhere around \$10,000 gross from the plant sale so that should tie us over for the year. I expect to have more expenses related to the plant sale. Peg has a bit over \$6000 left to spend from the \$12500 that we allotted for the Program. The gardens and the clinics have barely or not yet started to have expenses. There should be some expenses from the Wednesday seminars and field trips. There will be other expenses for the year. I'll keep an eye on things and keep the Board informed. I will have the Foundation tax return done in a week or so. It isn't due until May 15th. Liberty Tax Service is letting us have it at no expense again this year. Thanks to Ken Wilkinson, franchise owner.

Finance Committee Report.

Nothing new to report other than what is in the treasurer's report.

Sandy Livermore provided information contained in attached Treasurer's reports. Marialis Jurges made the motion to move the CD in the amount of \$4000. Georgene Smith seconded the motion. The Board approved unanimously. It was noted Dana Coggen, Noxious Weed Coordinator, is scheduled to report to the Board in June re: progress on the Noxious Weed brochure which will be partially funded by a grant from the MGFKC.

Horticulture Report

Peg Tillery reported the 10-week Native Plant Advisor/Shore Steward class begins April 5th on Bainbridge Island.

Peg will submit a \$2500 variance to the Program Budget to cover costs for the Native Plant boardwalk project at the Anna Smith Garden. The total may not be utilized because donations are expected from civic volunteer organizations.

WSU reporter, Denny Stener, visited the Extension Office to interview Becky Croston, John Mikesell and Mary-Cathern Edwards, Native Plant Advisors. Information about the native plant projects at Manchester State Park and Anna Smith Garden was discussed, and photos were taken of the Boardwalk Project at Anna Smith. The interview will appear in a WSU publication.

The MG kiosk for the Kitsap County Fair will be located in the President's Hall. This year will mark the 60th anniversary of the Fair and the 125th anniversary of Kitsap County.

Membership Committee

Wayne Tysver, Co-chair, reported the following: The targeted renewal number is unknown. Discussion between Mary-Cathern and Wayne determined the current Foundation membership is now 91. Wayne observed "all our calls were nicely received and ... making the effort to talk to each member via the phone is a winner!" Further discussion re: corporate memberships, businesses offering a discount to Foundation members ensued. Ray Etheridge, Committee Co-chair indicated a need to expand the Membership Committee. Cat Ross, Sharon Howard and Terry Strong agreed to assist and will meet with Wayne and Ray to further discuss revitalization of our corporate membership, and ways to partner with business. Peg and Arno will review the Committee recommendations.

Plant Sale Committee

PLANT SALE

Committee Meeting April 3, 2007 Waterfront Bakery, Silverdale 10 am -11:00

Seven Master Gardeners attended the meeting:

Becky Croston: Chair, Georgene Smith, TR Strong, Gary Gratrix, Al McKibben, Wayne Tysver, and Sheri Kiley.

1. Georgene will stop by Extension and bring the clinic boxes.
She also potted up the Hypertufa Pots with herbs and succulents.
She ordered two, \$15 each, flats of herbs—48 to the flat, from the High School.
2. Treasurer Sandy Livermore will bring the financial necessities to the sale, as she did last year.
3. Wayne Tysver received the laminated signs for the A-Boards, which were done by Rhiannon of the Extension Office. Gary gave Wayne several fabric pieces for Aprons: Wayne will ask if his wife would sew them up for the sale.
4. Gary Gratrix picked up trees donated by Jim Trainer: 9 Gary Oak, 20 Sitka Spruce, 8 Noble Fir, 2 Western Red Cedar, and 26 Pacific Silver Firs. We absolutely will send Jim a big thanks. They need to be potted up in 2 gal. or larger pots, which are now somewhere at Anna Smith.
Between now and the next sale, Laura Pittman-Hewitt can be asked to get a bunch of her “big pots” to Anna Smith: she has a stash, and we’re running low. Gary could use deep, 4”-6” pots.
5. Becky ordered 3, 6 ft. tables for clinic tables, 70, 8 ft. tables, and 24 chairs from Parks and Rec., via their special form.
Becky will contact Pam Warner to see how she made sure the door to the building is opened for us Thursday.
6. Signs: those who took “posters” can get them up now. Those who stuck the “yard signs” in the ground around the county can get those in about May 1st.
7. The Committee decided to not seek advertising on the Gig Harbor Readerboard along Hwy. 16. Becky is still trying to locate the person “in charge” of the Bremerton High School Readerboard. She has a new lead.... If we can get FREE advertising there, she will give them the details to post.
8. Sheri reported that the Fuchsias look great: 80 pots. We decided to have her purchase and present Dave of Foxglove Nursery with a restaurant gift certificate again this year.
9. Gary will make a diagram of the set-up floor plan this year for reference for next year. The plan is to meet at the Fairgrounds and get the tables up first, then go to Anna Smith to haul plants. After the sale, Saturday, left-overs will be hauled to Anna Smith.

-----End of Report-----

The Board congratulated Becky Croston and the Plant Sale Committee for their stellar efforts and superior organization skills.

Speaker Series

DeLona Kent indicated attendance was low, and the Series concluded with a negative balance. Discussion ensued re: reasons of the low attendance concluding with the fact that there are now multiple sources from which to obtain gardening information including the internet, garden centers and multiple ongoing speaker series. It was suggested a 1-year hiatus be taken and then review the survivability of continuing the Speaker's Series in (2008-09). DeLona was lauded for her coordination efforts of many years for this event.

Expenses		
Brochures		\$ 176.76
Brochures –add'l order		\$ 99.78
Tickets		\$ 102.45
Posters-Printing & Mailing		\$ 68.69
Hotel Rental		\$1250.00
Speakers:		
Richard Brown		\$ 100.00
Lorene Edwards Forkner		\$ 100.00
Mary Robson		\$ 100.00
Jan Bahr		\$ 100.00
	Total:	\$2097.88
Income		
Liberty Bay Books	1 sg	\$ 12.00
Valley Nursery	4 pk	\$ 140.00
Bremerton City Nursery	3 pk, 2 sg	\$ 141.00
Bainbridge Gardens	2 sg (\$26 donation)	\$ 50.00
Extension Office	8 pk, 4 sg	\$ 325.00
Bethel Ave Book Store	2 pk, 3 sg (\$2 donation)	\$ 108.00
Pt. Orchard Nursery	3 pk	\$ 105.00
Beach Hotel (sold at door)	3 pk	\$ 105.00
Richard Brown	9 sg	\$ 108.00
Lorene Forkner	7 sg	\$ 84.00
Mary Robson	14 sg	\$ 168.00
Jan Bahr	6 sg	\$ 72.00
Bethel Ave Book Store (10% of sales)		\$ 113.00
Cost		\$ -566.88
Submitted by DeLona Kent		

Program Committee/Third Wednesday Seminars

TR Strong read a report from a March 21 Ad Hoc Meeting to discuss the Seminar Schedule. Seminar dates were determined and the report was amended as follows:

Attendees: Sharon Howard, Ray Etheridge, Sharon Etheridge, Sandy Livermore, TR Strong, Allen McKibben, Gary Gratrix, Mary-Cathern Edwards, Jane Bedinger, Wayne Tysver,

Topics: Third Wednesday Seminars

Homecoming social event for former and current MGF Members

Sharon Howard chaired the discussion.

Sharon provided a history of the Third Wednesday Seminars (TWS). The topic at hand was to determine the future of the Seminars. Options discussed were a) "keep them going" or b) abandon the seminars. Observations were made re: declining attendance and the fact that we do not have a TWS coordinator.

The following elements were determined to be critical to regaining reestablishment of membership interest:

Establish a good variety of interesting speakers.

Reestablish the plant raffles.

Serve refreshments.

After much discussion, the following topics, dates, speakers and locations were thought to be of interest to the membership. (Note: Since none of the nominated presenters were at this meeting, we still have work to do in making our list a 'done deal'. It represents a hopeful work-in-progress).

- April 18 Cooking with Herbs. Location: Eagles Nest Meeting room at the Kitsap Fairgrounds with Susan Bower.
- May 16 Garden Art with Allen McKibben at Anna Smith Garden.
- June TBD Grape growing and Wine making with a wine tasting to follow. Speaker: TBD. Location: TR Strong's home
- July ? Garden Photography presentation at Anna Smith Garden. Presenter TBD. Ray Etheridge will coordinate.
- Aug 4 A Homecoming potluck open to all current and former Foundation members, at Anna Smith Garden.
- Aug 19 'How to make cement leaf stepping stones' presentation at Sharon Howard's on Sunday, Aug 19.
- Sept ? Food Preservation demonstration presented by Extension. Will coincide with September MGF Annual meeting.
- Oct 17 Succulent wreath making demonstration by Ann Pyles at the Eagles Nest meeting room, Kitsap Fairgrounds.

Additional topics discussed were:

How to prepare smoked meats

Weather in Kitsap County

Raised Beds
How to love your Moss
Septic Systems
Seed plantings and plant propagation
Growing hops and making beer

It was decided that by 'mixing it up' with weekend and week day opportunities at different times and locations might be more accommodating to the membership as a whole.

Members will bring 'potluck' refreshments for seminars. Sharron Etheridge volunteered to prepare coffee and tea for seminars scheduled for the Eagles Nest meeting room.

The group agreed to meet in November to review success and progress.

Notes submitted by Mary-Cathern Edwards

Marialis Jurges will touch base with our April presenter, Susan Bower, to ensure this presentation is on track. (Secretary's note: Mission accomplished per Marialis)

Cat Ross agreed to coordinate the Program Committee, with a periodic schedule reminder to the sponsors and/or presenters as we progress through the Seminar schedule.

New Business:

Logo Wear: Sharon made a motion to have the Foundation resume sales responsibilities for the non WSU logo wear, and to resume sales of WSU logo MG wear, through a licensed vendor, when permission is received from WSU. Sandy seconded the motion. The motion was passed. Discussion took place re: selling non logo T-shirts, Foundation aprons and emblems at the Plant Sale. Peg noted Barbara Thomas would be willing to coordinate the sale of the items. A table will be provided for Barbara and her Committee. Sharon requested Barb provide an informational report re: sales at the May Board Meeting. Peg indicated Barbara would be able to provide the sales figures. Further, TR will write to Arno with a suggested letter from him to Linda Kirk-Fox re: gaining permission from WSU to sell the WSU MG logo wear.

Staggered Board terms: A discussion occurred re: staggered Board terms. It was noted a change in bylaws needs to be made if the terms are to be staggered. The Bylaws Committee members, Gary Gratrix, Donna Hamiliton, Delona Kent, and ex-officio members, Sandy Livermore and Sharon Howard will meet to review this issue.

TR Strong adjourned the meeting at 2:58 PM.

Minutes submitted by **Mary-Cathern Edwards**, Secretary.