

MGFKC Board Meeting  
August 3, 2005

Board members present: Gary Gratrix, Jane Bedinger, Beanie O'Neill, Robbie Gallagher, Kim Loucks, M.J. Tyler

The meeting was called to order at 1 PM by Pres. Gary Gratrix.

The minutes of the June 1, 2005 meeting were approved as distributed by M.J. Tyler. The minutes of the July 6, 2005 meeting were approved as written by Kim Loucks and distributed by M.J. Tyler.

Treasurer's report: Our current balance is \$15,390.99. Because our income from calendar sales kept pace with expenses, we did not need to cash in the CD which matured on July 7, 2005. We have a CD due to mature on September 5, 2005. Beanie recommends that we allow this to roll over. M.J. moved and Jane seconded approval of this recommendation, which passed. It was suggested that the CD we cashed in April to fund the calendar project be reinstated as a 6 mos. CD in October so that we would be back on the cycle established for having money available every 3 mos. if needed. It was decided to make this recommendation to the new board.

Beanie reported that the original calendar budget did not have a line item to show postage expense and reimbursement. Beanie moved, and M.J. seconded action to add a budget amount of \$300, which was approved. This is done for the sake of clarity of audit, it is not a new expenditure authorization. Beanie noted that MG Foundation members have incurred travel expenses in connection with marketing the calendar. She has not received any requests for reimbursement but the Board approved her asking for an accounting of the individuals' travel expenses with an indication of how much reimbursement they would request.

Horticulture Coordinator report: Peg Tillery summarized the status of the various gardens. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has been signed for the Anna Smith garden. One has been drawn up and will be signed shortly for Raab Park. Debra Hall has agreed to head the garden committee for Anna Smith, assisted by Donna Hamilton. Peg announced a simplified method of renewing participation of MGs in the program. Garden chairs, clinic leaders, and participants who are currently active will remain in their assignments. She will contact only those still needing assignment as well as the rookies each year. The 2005 WSU Master Gardener Conference in Pullman was discussed. There has not been a great deal of response on the "Diagnostics Bowl" activity. A proposal has been made that several counties join forces to field a team. Anyone interested in this should contact Peg. So far it is unclear whether there will be a Country Store. We hope for some type of venue to sell our calendar. Beanie expects some information in the coming week. Peg noted that she and Arno Bergstrom will attend a coordinator's meeting on October 6 in Pullman. She asked that we provide her with information about our concerns to take to this meeting. A class for Native Plant Advisors has been scheduled for February 2006 on Thursdays beginning on Feb. 2, 2006. The annual MG Training classes for 2006 are scheduled for Fridays beginning January 13, 2006. No classes will be held during the NW Flower and Garden Show week. An MOA for Howe Farm has been drawn up, but not yet signed. This activity will likely not start until next year. Peg sat in on the interviews for a Garden Coordinator to supervise volunteers at Islandwood. There are three great candidates, one of whom will start in two weeks.

Calendar Committee report: Sharon Howard, Karen Meyer and Colette Wilson gave an update on this project which is already "in the black" – earlier than expected. They had success in

Saskatoon and Oregon as well as at Bainbridge in Bloom. They thanked Jeanette Fox for the banner she donated which was very effective. (See attached committee report for details.)

Field Trips report: Joyia Rubens reported a very successful trip to Oyster Point gardens on July 15 with 25 attendees. Some of the group continued to Pt. Gamble for lunch and on to Savage Nursery. The next field trip will be August 7<sup>th</sup> for a dahlia garden tour. Tentative plan for Sept. is a trip to the Bainbridge Winery, which will include a wine tasting and a \$5 fee.

Nominating committee report: Gary Gratrix reported for Allen McKibben. A full slate of candidates was presented, with ballots ready to fold and mail today. The return date to Ext. is September 9. Counting will be done at the annual meeting on September 21, 2005.

Logo design: Jane Bedinger reported that she has had substantially no response to the request for suggestions that went out by email. Some of her sketches were circulated and some suggestions were made at this meeting.

Grants/resources report: The Grants Committee completed a proposal and submitted it to meet a July deadline set by the Russell Foundation, which supports environmental education. While the general outlines of this proposal (to develop a Gardening Guide tailored to this area) were discussed at the June meeting, some board members felt the budget and the amount of effort required should have been reviewed and approved by the board prior to submission. It was noted that this submission is simply a letter of intent to apply for a grant, not a grant proposal per se. In mid-September the Russell Foundation will inform us if they will entertain a grant proposal. This foundation accepts letters of intent in February and July. While funds would be accepted by the Foundation, implementation would be the responsibility of the Extension Office.

This issue highlighted the need for a procedure to be developed for approving commitment of foundation resources. The Procedures Committee (Sharon Howard, Gary Gratrix, Fay Linger, Mary Manning and Karen Meyer) have been working on a procedures manual and will include this in their efforts.

New seminar coordinator needed: With the passing of Niene Hartley, someone needs to take over scheduling of the monthly seminars. Peg has scheduled several recent seminars; there will be no August seminar because of the fair. Dana Coggon will give the September seminar on noxious weeds. Kathy Morris has volunteered to give a talk on garlic in October. Gary will work with the list of those MGs who signed up as interested in the seminar committee to identify someone willing to take on this function.

Annual Banquet: This event is organized by the Extension Office with MGs asked to decorate the tables. It is scheduled for September 24, 2005 at the Crossroads Methodist Church in Bremerton at 6 pm.

A donation of one copy of the Foundation Calendar to Harrison Hospital was approved,.

The September Board Meeting is scheduled for approximately 3 pm on September 21, 2005. It will follow the seminar from 1-2 pm; and the Annual Meeting (at which the election ballots will be counted) from 2-3 pm.

Respectfully submitted  
M.J. Tyler, Secretary

