

MGFKC Board Meeting
June 1, 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 May 4th meeting were approved as corrected. Under State Foundation Training conference, Beanie corrected the reference to the "Diagnostics Bowl" teams to read: "Counties can each enter two teams, with 8 teams from each side of the state. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer's report: Our current balance is \$18,017.18 (including \$735 of Extension Office funds). Income from the plant sale was higher than what our budget called for. Presales of the Calendar have been received in excess of \$600. Therefore, it looks like we will be able to cover the cost of the initial printing of the calendar without resorting to support from angels. Beanie will be on vacation from July 1 thru July 16, 2005. One of our CD's matures on July 7, 2005 which we had planned to cash for the calendar project. Gary will take care of doing this. Beanie reminded us that the Audit Committee will need to schedule its annual review sometime in late August or early September. This committee will be chaired by M.J. Tyler who will contact the other members, Gail Everett, Linda Johnston and Pam Warner to set a meeting date.

Gary reported that the Nominating Committee will begin work soon with their first meeting scheduled for next Wednesday, June 8, 2005.

Horticultural Coordinator's Report: Peg Tillery distributed brochures for the State Master Gardener Foundation Advanced Training Conference to be held in Pullman September 7-9, 2005. On line enrollment is also available. She urged that we consider fielding a team for the "Diagnostics Bowl" which is a new feature of the conference.

Garden Reports: An Open House is scheduled for Anna Smith on August 7th. Robb Park will begin the summer kids' program beginning on June 27th and the Mondays following to September. Volunteers who can swing a hammer are invited to assist senior scout Tyler Rencher who will be installing 13 raised beds at Robb Park as his project for Eagle Scout status. Some changes have been made at Islandwood. The management has realized that they need a full time garden coordinator and will be advertising to fill the position soon. The gardens at Retsil will be needing a new coordinator as Megan Allen will be moving to the Seattle area soon..

Training opportunity: Holly Kennel will offer a Diagnostic Class on June 4, 2005 at the Norm Dicks Govt. Center in the "Egg". Since this is a Saturday, parking is free in the 6th street lot.

Clinic signs now available for all Plant Clinics including that at the office.

Extension Office staffing:

Extension Office staffing: Our full time Weed Control Coordinator, Dana Coggon, now has a ¾ time assistant, Toni Probert who has been a temporary employee for a year. The new "web master" is Rhiannon Fernandez. The Director position has now reached the point of having 3 finalists in consideration.

Seminar Report: Rita Hummel will come from Puyallup to offer a seminar on "Roots" on June 15th in the 4th floor classroom at the Norm Dicks Center.

Calendar Committee Report: (See attached for details). Sharon Howard reported on progress with the calendar production. She pointed out that a date when it would be crucial to make a decision regarding any possible second printing of the calendar may fall at an inconvenient time for the Board to meet. The board members agreed that it would be OK to vote on this decision via the phone and email consultation.

Field Trips: Joyia Rubens reported on a successful field trip to hybridizer Mindy Reinke's iris gardens in Seabeck on May 20th. A trip to Dragonfly Nursery and Boone Briar Farms Peony Nursery is planned for June 2, 2005. On July 15th a trip to Oyster Point Gardens will be led by Donna Paulsen.

Plant Sale: Beanie O'Neill reported that the final income from the Plant Sale totaled \$8317.37. This year was one of our most successful with many people participating and things going smoothly. Some of the best sellers were the vegetable starts that Sandie Jardee grew, the fuchsia baskets, native plants and geraniums. We had too many raspberry plants, but so much sold that there was very little which had to be taken back to Anna Smith at the end of the sale. Gary thanked all who participated to make this a VERY GOOD SALE!

Ideas for next year: Raising the number of fuchsia baskets to 50. Foxglove nursery has encouraged us to do this, as well as planning other projects with them this fall for next year. Planting boxes containing a "kitchen garden" of herbs and lettuces were a good seller at another sale this year. One area that needs improvement is communications with the rookie class, many of whom were not contacted to help. Rookies often request more hands on training so we might offer a propagation class for them with an eye to growing on for the sale.

Resource Development Committee Report: This is the former "Grants Committee": Committee Co-Chair Beth Soukup presented an outline of the committee work thus far (see attached). Members include Frank Deeback (Co-Chair), Jennie Lund, Kim Loucks, Val Martinson, Gary Gratrix, Beanie O'Neill and Peg Tillery. The committee has been developing a sense of the process for developing resources. They have discovered that we need to develop written materials that explain our mission, such as a brochure or perhaps more than one type, as well as a logo and letterhead. Since we have recently learned that our foundation needs to create a logo separate from WSU or the State MG Foundation, this is a timely issue. It was decided that we should solicit artwork from our members and it was agreed that we would announce a contest for our logo design. Deadline is set for July 31st with a decision to be reached by the end of August. An email announcement will go out. Submissions to the Extension Office.

Beth requested suggestions for contacts as well as entrepreneurial ideas be sent to her via email.

One project that would be both educational and a potential fund raiser would be to put together a booklet welcoming new residents to Kitsap Co. in which we can give information on gardening and landscaping practices appropriate to our area. This could be put in the hands of real estate agents, the Navy, schools and for sale at nurseries.

State Foundation Raffle Revisited: Peg Tillery reported that an MG in Mason County has taken the training to sell these tickets and would be willing to come here to present the training for us so we could participate. Discussion centered on what venue would be appropriate for these sales. When it developed that we would be barred from selling at the county fair, the matter was dropped.

Phone Committee: Gary announced that Robbie has agreed organize a committee responsible for contacting MGs who are not on the email when an announcement is circulated. Other possible committee members are Liz Hubble, Dorothy Crouch and Cel Crane. Robbie receives her email on WebTV which means that she cannot open attachments. The originator of the message will be contacted to supply a hard copy of such material.

Process for handling the paperwork associated with a new membership: Beanie proposed a system whereby she will check the mail in the ext. office for membership applications, deposit any checks received. She would forward membership data to Al McKibben and Jane Bedinger so they can update the newsletter and email lists. She would welcome the new member, and then pass the application form to M.J. who would file it with the secretary's materials. This process was approved.

Respectfully submitted, M.J. Tyler, Secretary