

Master Gardener Foundation Kitsap County

Board Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2006

I. Call to order

Jane Bedinger called to order the regular meeting of the **MGFKC** at **1:06 pm** on **May 3, 2006** at the Eagles Nest, Kitsap County Fairgrounds, Bremerton WA.

Attendees: Jane Bedinger, TR Strong, Sandy Livermore, Marialis Jurges, Allen Miller, Colette Wilson, Delona Kent, Wayne Tysver, Peg Tillery, Gary Gratrix, Donna Hamilton, Donna Alber, Isabel Van Valey , Margaret Boniface, Ray & Sharon Etheridge, Carol McCarthy

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Colette Wilson queried for any corrections or amendments to the minutes from the last meeting. No changes or amendments – Minutes approved as published without a vote.

III. Reports and Announcements

Treasurer's Report – Sandy Livermore

Income tax return completed and mailed with the assistance of Liberty Tax Services. Mary Beth Oakes (sister of Karen Meyers) sent a card and donation in memory of her sister.

See attached report.

Jane questioned whether we had a plan to reduce the amount of cash on hand after the plant sale. Sandy indicated that CD's would be increased when the came due in July 1006.

Horticulture Coordinator – Peg Tillery

Peg submitted several documents to support her report. She received a number of questions from Clallam County with regard to the Program and the Foundation.

Clallam County MG's visited Raab Park on Thursday, April, 2006 to gather information with regard to how our Program runs as well as how the Foundation works. Clallam County has actually been deeded a farm property for their use.

MG Program Planning Committee – Peg Tillery, John Mikesell, Sandy Livermore, TR Strong, Delona Kent.

Leadership workshop is being held at the Thelar Wetlands in the Community Room from 10 until 2:30 pm. Members are invited to attend. The cost of the day was shared by Mason County and Kitsap County MG Foundation.

All clinics are running and the gardens are functioning and Anna Smith is in particularly good shape. Raab Park has gotten a later start.

We have been invited to participate in Blueberry Park in Bremerton although those plans are not coming together as anticipated.

Weed Advisor classes begin tomorrow and there are still spots available.

TR questioned what the sign up procedure was for the Leadership workshop. Members are to contact Peg and/or TR to register for workshop. Peg suggested that we might car pool. There are 15 available spots.

We have not had a "greenhouse" committee meeting. Peg will plan a meeting and announce it in the near future.

State Foundation Representative – TR Strong
No Report

Newsletter Committee – Colette Wilson

Jane Bedinger has had some feedback from a couple of members who have said that while they like the newsletter but feel that "something" online was sufficient.

Jane Bedinger indicated that Jane Ramirez might be available to help with something electronic but Peg added that she was under the impression that Jane Ramirez was having some health problems and may not actually be in a position to help.

Virgie Smith questioned whether we could print minutes etc for members who don't have email. Gary Gratrix commented that we could print email etc and mail it but may not want to mail minutes etc.

Colette commented that mailing of this type of information would either fall under the Communications committee or the Secretary position.

Donna Hamilton commented that perhaps we charge the members who want items mailed to them a fee for doing so.

Peg Tillery commented that members can't be penalized for not having a computer or access to same by not making the communications and information made available to them. She suggested that we might consider a buddy system, a member with a computer buddied with one that does not and the computer person prints the emails or calls the other MG to give them the information.

TR Strong commented that we have a couple of problems at hand, lack of assistance being the greatest one.

Colette commented that she could continue to create the electronic material. Marialis Jurges indicated that postage is increasing and perhaps "they" are trying to give us a message to do things electronically. She supports the buddy system.

Donna Albers has indicated that for the small number of people who do not have computers and email access we should be mailing the news and information.

Jane questioned if what we were saying was only mail items to those who have no email access?

Jane asked Colette if she would continue as newsletter editor with limitations on the amount of mailing work required.

Jane suggested not creating a June newsletter and readying material for publication in August when we are doing a large mailing with regard to elections. Motion from TR that beginning in June 2006 the newsletter be sent electronically to the members with email – TR, second Marialis

Discussion – Wayne questioned whether the newsletter could be sent as one separate email with NEWSLETTER as the title. We will not send the newsletter as an attachment but rather a link to it on the MGFKC website.

Vote - Unanimously

Program Committee – Sharon Howard – Absent, report read by Jane.

See attached report.

Hypertufa pots are gorgeous. Sharon will bring to the Plant Sale set up day.

Worm bin class may be cancelled or postponed due to lack of interest.

Speaker Series – Delona Kent

Delona submitted a report outlining her recommendations with regard to the 2007 Speaker Series. She is only suggesting 4 Sundays beginning February 18 and ending March 11, 2007.

She questioned whether we would be interested in Jan Barr from Roadhouse Nursery speak about Water Gardening as Russell Link of Fish and Wildlife has declined the request to speak. The group present was in agreement with Have Jan Barr speak in his place.

She estimates the cost to be \$1990 including speaker costs and hotel rental.

Motion to accept plan as submitted: Colette Wilson, Seconded Marialis Jurges

Vote: All in favor, carried unanimously.

Field Trips – Marialis Jurges

6209 Glenwood Rd SW Port Orchard

Phoebe Hibbard (360) 876-3350. We are meeting at that residence at 11:00.

We are covering the cost of \$5 per member. Non members will also be charged that fee.

The next Field Trip will be on June 2, 10:00 am in Poulsbo. Further details to follow. Jane will send out a reminder email.

Plant Sale – Gary Gratrix

No further committee meetings until the plant sale. Volunteers with pick up trucks are needed to bring plants into the fair grounds from Anna Smith on the set up day.

Signs are being set up around the county to advertise the sale. There are 55 fuchsia baskets being sold at \$15 each.

There will be a clinic at the plant sale so there is material available for handling attendees questions.

If you cannot take your plants to the sale on the set up Thursday you can bring them to the Anna Smith on the Wednesday before the plant sale and they will be moved from there. You can basically bring your plants directly to the sale any of the three days (Thurs, Fri & Sat) and they will be sold.

The Foundation will be selling patches, aprons and calendars. Gary commented that in past we have not had a pre-sale of items to ensure fairness to the buying public who see MG's leaving prior to the sale opening with prime plants. Gary suggested that something like this could be done the evening before the opening of the plant sale.

Jane commented that members continue to ask for this member benefit. She suggested that perhaps we could have an event separate from the plant sale that is an actual plant exchange quite separate from the actual plant sale. Jane commented that our intent would be to encourage propagation and continue support of plant donations by Members.

Peg commented that publicity needs to be started aggressively. She wondered if Rhiannon should send out a press release. Jane suggested that Peg contact Heidi Hottinger was in charge of publicity and should be contacted before Rhiannon undertakes doing something like this.

Ray Etheredge suggested that a plant swap could take place at the evening Board meeting.

Anna Smith Shelter – Gary Gratrix

We have been awarded \$1000 by Silverdale Rotary towards the building of the Anna Smith Shelter. Between this grant and the \$450 we had previously received from Bremerton Garden Club we have a good start on funding.

Matching funds would be needed from the Foundation to proceed. We still need permits for building.

A thank you to Silverdale Rotary needs to be sent. Should the project not be undertaken we are required to refund the money to Silverdale Rotary.

MG's will be building the shelter with some outside assistance.

Rich Arper is the Duck Buck's chair....Donna Hamilton and Gary Gratrix will get contact information for Colette.

Wayne Tysver suggested that we needed to be more aggressive in advertising. He talked about what the plant sale earned in previous years and how significant the advertising budget was in those years. Wayne has produced advertising bookmarks and flyers for distribution.

TR suggested that Jane contact Pam Warner to determine what the status of publicity is. Jane will contact her and make an offer of assistance in this area if it is needed.

Ways and Means Committee

No report.

Finance Committee

No report.

Audit Committee

No report.

IV. Unfinished Business

Nominating Committee: the following members have agreed to be on the nominating committee: Sharon Howard, Joyia Rubens, **JANE TO FILL IN OTHER NAMES.**

V. New Business

Fair Preparation – Donna Alber

The Presidents Hall is being renovated to remove the center wall. We don't have walls for creating our displays etc. Donna has called Bob McBride to see what we can do to define our area more clearly. We may create a "fenced" area to define the MG area.

Donna has requested information regarding the size allotment for other departments in the fair to ensure we have compatible amount of space allotted. Donna requested a stamp be created so we can identify material that is being distributed to the public. Peg indicated that the Program would incur the cost of producing this item.

Jane commented that this item was added to the agenda since the Fair is the next big event after the Plant Sale. She questioned what the Foundation could do to enhance the Fair experience for MG's or have the Foundation have a presence at the Fair. Donna Alber commented that the Foundation is already providing well in terms of the generous budget.

Donna says we need displays at the fair. She has had no firm commitments from anyone interested in doing a display.

Peg suggested that Foundation involvement in Fair planning or presentation at the Fair "muddies the waters" and confuses the issue. Master Gardeners participate in the Fair as part of the Program.

Jane commented that as a group, Foundation members might want to get together and do an exhibit.

Peg indicated that if an email goes out from Foundation to members inviting participation in the Fair that those involved be made aware that their participation is on behalf of the Program.

Marialis Jorges suggested that a display could be created using Strawberries as an example of how untended crops fail to produce.

TR questioned whether Danna Coggin would have a noxious weed display. Peg confirmed it would be in the Extension tend.

Evening Meeting in June – Jane Bedinger

Members have asked in past if we could hold an evening meeting. She is suggesting that we have either the June or July meeting held in the evening.

Gary commented that they have not been successful in past, that despite members asking for them they are poorly attended.

Motion to have July meeting moved to an evening timeslot (6:00 to 8:00pm) to accommodate working members. Motion Colette Wilson, Seconded TR Strong
Vote: unanimous vote in favor of motion.

Jane will accept suggestions for locations for the meeting to be held.

Invitation from Clallam County Master Gardener Foundation – Jane Bedinger

When visiting our parks and discussing gardens they have suggested that an invitation will be extended to MGFKC members to attend a meeting at their facilities.

VI. Adjournment

Jane Bedinger adjourned the meeting at **2:50pm**.

Minutes submitted by: Colette Wilson, Secretary