

Master Gardener Foundation Kitsap County

DRAFT Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 7 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, March 7, 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, Judy Morgan, Jane Bedinger, Gary Gratrix, John Mikesell. Dorothy Crouch, Virginia Jones, Jean Gallagher, Roland Malan, and Cat Ross.

The minutes of the February 7, 2007 meeting were corrected to note **Gary Gratrix's** presence at the February 7 meeting and **Gary**, not TR Strong, provided Resale Sales Tax information. The corrected minutes were approved. The corrections will be updated on the Foundation website (www.kitsapgardens.com)

Reports and Announcements

Treasurer's Review

Sandy Livermore reported we have a CD due April 6, 2007. *See attached reports.*

Horticulture Report

No report. **Peg Tillery** was in attendance at a WSU conference.

Communications Committee

No report. **Jane Bedinger** led discussion on ad space available in June/July/August edition of West Sound Home and Garden magazine. It was agreed ad space will be utilized to address membership solicitation and garden information.

Membership Committee

See report. Discussion included need for more social opportunities at Foundation events. **Cat Ross** indicated her Texas MG Foundation held a social event, inviting all current and former MGs. The event was fun, provided a reunion and meeting event for old and new friends...and of course included food. Former

MGs were encouraged to renew membership. Discussion continued re: methods of making prospective members aware of membership benefits. **Mary-Cathern** will provide **Wayne** and **Ray** with an updated 2007 membership list. (Secretary's note: Seventy-four members have renewed for 2007)

Anna Smith Garden Shelter Committee

See report. **Gary Gratrix** indicated the Shelter was completed on **February 14**. The shelter provides a welcome addition to Anna Smith, providing a covered area those in attendance for classes and meetings. Secretary's Note: Go take a look – what a tremendous group effort!! Kudos to all participants.

Speaker Series

Delona Kent provided information that attendance was low. Discussion continued re: possible reasons. It was noted attendance was also waning for the Third Wednesday Seminars.

Program Committee/Third Wednesday Seminars

General discussion noted attendance was down for the Third Wednesday Seminars (note: if you did not attend Jane Bedinger's and Marialis Jurges' garden tool presentation....you missed a rollicking good time!)

The Program Committee needs a Chair.

Sharon Howard commented we need to have more events, dealing with fun 'things', e.g. the popular 2006 hypertufa class; social and (non-Extension) Program events. **Judy Morgan** suggested we pursue regional gatherings, fashioned after the regional Program meetings. **Virginia Jones** commented on incorporating educational elements within our third Wednesday Seminars.

Discussion continued re: the fact we need someone to organize our events.

Marialis Jurges indicated Seminars were planned for April and August. A special meeting on Wednesday, March 21 (first day of Spring!) will be held to discuss and focus on the future of Third Wednesday Seminars. Ray Etheridge and other members present suggested the return of seed exchanges and plant swaps, refreshments after the presentations, an emphasis on socializing. Jane Bedinger will provide information from past Member surveys. All agreed that providing wonderful events may encourage the return of former members and retain current members.

Plant Sale Committee

See report. **Becky Croston** designed a 'Thank You' card utilizing Kitsap MGF logo and presented to the Board for approval. **TR** blessed the project, **Sharon** seconded the motion and the Board approved. **Gary Gratrix** reported 20 volunteers helped with the potting of Plant Sale plants on March 3rd, at Anna Smith. Discussion continued re lamination process of A-board signs. Plant trays for the Sale will be transported by **Pam Warner** (**Judy Morgan** to contact Pam)

2006 Au Naturel calendars will be sold at the Plant Sale at a reduced price. The Board agreed. Sharon Howard will provide "Banned in Pullman" stickers.

Georgene reported the pinching of 500 fuchsias is complete. Dave at Foxglove Nursery is tending the potted tomato plants.

Unfinished Business:

Communications and Privacy Policies

Gary Gratrix noted our Communications and Privacy policies, approved in January 2007, did not include the adoption date, nor the review date. Discussion suggested a three-year review cycle for both policies. **Sharon Howard** made a motion to include adoption and review cycle dates for the Communications and Privacy policies. **Georgene Smith** seconded the motion. The Board approved. Gary will provide the current 'Policy Index and Review' Chart for posting on the Foundation website. (*See attached*)

New Business:

State Master Gardener Foundation Conference

See attached report provided by Kitsap representative, **Roland Malan**. It was noted WSU will **not** be hosting a Fall 2007 Master Gardener Conference. Many of the same WSU sponsored speakers from previous years' WSU State Conferences will be speaking at this State Master Gardener Foundation Conference at Fort Worden State Park Conference Center in Port Townsend, June 7-9. Members are encouraged to attend and enjoy the fellowship and learning.

Anna Smith Nature Trail Project

John Mikesell provided information re: the 5-year project-in- the-making of establishing a nature trail at Anna Smith Park. County Department of Community Development completed a review of the Nature Trail project and is waiting for a design to complete the approval process. Kiwanis completed a survey and created a plot plan of the designated trail area, which includes forested wetlands. The project design utilizes 35 eight foot boardwalk sections to transverse the boggy areas. Parks and Rec will fund \$1500 of the \$3500 construction total. John was advised to provide a business plan for presentation to the Board at the next meeting in April. Becky Croston suggested contacting the Washington State Native Plant Society for further funding assistance. The WSNPS website currently indicates money is available for Native Plant demonstration projects. Their application deadline is March 15.

MGF presentation to 2007 Intern Class

Members of the Board will provide a Master Gardener Foundation Kitsap presentation to the Intern class on Friday, March 23. **TR** to contact **Peg** re: the time.

TR Strong adjourned the meeting at 3:10 PM.

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

Anna Smith Shelter Report
March 7, 2007

With the addition of T1-11 siding on the gable ends of the shelter, and three sections of rail fence behind, we finished the shelter project on Valentines Day, February 14, 2007. My thanks go out to the many people who have contributed to its successful completion.

My original estimate for the entire project was \$2600. The final tally is \$2702.99. The overage can be attributed to the cost of the rail safety fence behind the shelter, which wasn't anticipated in the original budget, but necessary due to the finished height of the retaining wall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary Gratrix

**KITSAP COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION
PLANT SALE
Committee report: March 6 meeting**

Location/time: Silverdale Firehall 10 to 11:15 am. Mar. 6, 2007

Eight Master Gardeners attended the meeting:

Becky Croston (Chair.) Georgene Smith, TR Strong, Gary Gratrix, Al McKibben,
Wayne Tysver, Pam Warner, Sheri Kiley.

The following items were covered / decisions made:

1. Refreshments for Volunteers during sale: Pam Warner will contact the volunteer who coordinated this last year.

2. Supplies for day of sale: Gary Gratrix has “everything.”

3. Volunteer report: Pam Warner was given more lists of volunteers, and a Rookie roster for contact information.

4. Dahlias: Gary will contact Val Martinson to see if her contacts will have any for this sale.

5. Potting-up Work Parties:

A. TR reported on a successful work party at his neighbor’s place Thursday March 1st. Gary Gratrix, TR, Becky, and Ray Etheredge potted up about 90 trees, including 35 Doug Fir, 20+ Hemlock, 3 Pines, and the rest Cedars ---all really healthy. All were taken to Anna Smith.

B. Gary reported that lots of volunteers were at Anna Smith for the potting up: about 180 trees, etc. were potted up on Sat. March 3. One of the many Rookies commented (while eating a piece of sheet cake!) that “boy, this group sure is food-oriented!”

C. The same day, Becky met Tina Klimko, Tess Frazie, Nancy Minahan, Georgie Pulliam, and Susan Bowers at Raab Park where garden leader Marilyn Mathis met us to point out what we could dig up for the Sale. At least 120 strawberries and 30 raspberries were dug up and taken to Anna Smith and potted up.

6. Signs: Wayne has been hard at work re-painting the 10 A-boards which needed re-vamping. Becky took samples of the temporary paper covers which were used last year: she will work with Rhiannon at the Extension Office to make up laminated paper signs which can be taped to the A-boards. Now these A-boards can be generic: used for other events, simply with new laminated paper signs taped to them.

7. Posters: Gary brought in a box of finished posters: they look great, and will be distributed in April.

8. Gloves: Pam Warner said we can save shipping costs if we buy a case of mixed sizes and mixed colors. The gloves are Atlas Brand—top of the line, and we could get them for 2.78 per pair. The suggested retail is \$5.99 but Pam is looking into what the local markets are really asking—we think it's higher. A case would be \$400 for 12 dozen. We *were* going to order eight, after selling four so easily last year, and all agreed that we will sell them easily at the Sale and other events.

9. Customer cardboard carrying trays: Pam Warner is on top of arranging for these: someone will need to haul them from the Poulsbo supplier the Thursday of the Sale.

10. Calendars: we need to have Foundation establish a price for them for the sale, and make sure they all get to the Sale. Right now they are with Foundation members throughout the county. We would also like the “Banned in Pullman” stickers to put on them—we think Sharon Howard has those. All McKibben would like to get Cisco to autograph them....not sure how to arrange for that!

11. Plundering left to do: Shari Kiley is expecting a call-back from Chris Craig in Indianola about when a group can go to her place to get the plants she is offering.

12. Anna Smith: their gardeners will be there Wed. March 14th: Shari Kiley will take her Red-Osier Dogwood volunteers there to pot them up, since soil and big pots are there. Shari Kiley will also contact Donna Paulson to arrange to pick up some of her “over 2 gallon” pots to take to Anna Smith for storage and use.

13. Raab Park: Al reported that there are lots of Venetian blind sections stored there (and at Anna Smith) if anyone needs them to mark plants. Georgene says the height of a “bean can” is a great length....

14. A notice to all M.G.'s was written by Becky and sent by Peg Feb. 22 about how they can get going now on potting up for the sale. We can't be reminded enough that the slugs are hungry out there!

15. Promotions:

- A. Feb.15 & 22: Parks and Rec. Guide: notified by Becky--will be distributed March 24th.
- B. Feb. 9 : Fairgrounds readerboards' form filled out by Gary and Becky-- mailed to Parks Dept.
- C. Jan. 10: Jackie Aitchison took care of arranging for the readerboard in Poulsbo.
- D. --Becky will check with Toni Probert on whether we can promote the Sale on the readerboard at Bremerton High School on 11th St. in Bremerton. Suggested by Georgene.

16. Fuchsia pinching party: Shari Kiley will gather volunteers for this task, and figure out a good date.

17: Bookmarks: Wayne brought in a supply of them which Becky will take Friday to the Extension Office so they can be added to the Clinic Boxes.

18. Thank You Cards: Becky brought in samples which she worked up on her computer. Everyone is asked to gather names and addresses of those special people we should thank after the Sale.

19. The next meeting of the Plant Sale Committee will be Tuesday, **April 3**, 10 am, in a different location: Georgene will book us into the upstairs meeting room at the **Silverdale Waterfront Bakery**, where the Plant Sale Committee met in December and all last year. (Seems the hungriest of the members miss the lunches they used to have there, and I miss the Espresso---not that we're a “food oriented group....”)