

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2017

President, **Jeanne Pavero**, called the meeting to order at 9am. In attendance were Amanda Kiel, Hank Rapp, Gloria Rapp, Jeanne Pavero, Mary Dixon, Fred Mina, Lynn Eriquez, Maryann Horgan, Merry MacBarb, Sean Lennon and Anne Coleman.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

The April Plant Sale beginning on April 21 is expected to be very successful as early-bird shoppers have already been turned away.

President Pavero introduced **Sean Lennon** to the Board. He has joined the Extension Office as the new curator for the Botanical Garden and Horticultural Assistant.

OLD BUSINESS

All members conducting House Call visits need only submit report copies to **Tom Woods**.

Hands on Horticulture is cancelled due to a conflict with the county's school calendar.

Woody Taylor will mentor three 4H students who were reviewed and approved by the Scholarship Committee. Each were approved for a BCMGVA \$100 scholarship for partial coverage of the summer Horticulture Camp tuition.

The Scholarship Committee has received no response from Brunswick Community College regarding the sponsorship of another BCMGVA scholarship. It was proposed the committee pursue interested high school students.

The Botanical Garden waterfall was allowed to run during the most recent garden tour but will be shut down for maintenance.

BOARD ACCEPTANCE:

Minutes - The March 2017 Executive Board Meeting minutes submitted by **Anne Coleman** were accepted by the board.

Financial Report – **Hank Rapp** submitted the March Treasurer's Report, stating the monthly income and expenses were straightforward. He noted the meeting Expense for March totaled over \$120, and the board agreed to remind future refreshment providers to limit expenses to \$100 or less.

President Pavero recommended the association continue the use of an outside accountant.

Because the Plant Sale will incur additional fees associated with acceptance of credit cards it was decided to allow the April Sale to proceed as planned and instruct the Plant Sale Committee to price the May Sale

plants to cover the additional cost. **Hank Rapp** requested an Assistant Treasurer to handle all work associated with the plant sales.

Mary Dixon requested the Board increase the budgeted line item amount for 'Publication Costs- GBM, Herb, DIY'. The expense associated with publishing the Garden by the Month book has increased significantly due to higher than projected use in the House Calls Program and DIY classes. Mary stated the book has become the 'Calling Card' of the BCMGVA. The Board recommended an increase of \$3000. Mary will present to the Association for final approval. The additional funds will be taken from the Reserve if approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership Committee – **Lynn Eriquez** reported the association now has 79 paid members. The Board authorized her to continue accepting membership dues despite the March deadline.

Botanical Garden Committee – **Maryann Horgan** provided a recap of the Botanical Garden Committee meeting held the prior week **Sean Lennon** power-washed the fort and pump house in preparation for the Restitution clients to stain the exteriors. He will be invited to the committee meetings, and, each garden leader will meet to share history and philosophy of their particular area of the garden. Maryann discussed the need for donations of old gardening tools to be used in a wall sculpture on the side of the Fort. A simple, but informative map will be produced for inclusion in the Garden Mailbox. **Pat Quinn** is charged with developing prototype signs for the individual gardens. Maryann asked **Sam Marshall** to consider rotating the next Master Gardener class members through the Botanical Garden to encourage better participation. No expenses associated with Garden Expansion (The Children's Garden and The Japanese Garden) have been incurred.

Hardscape – **Fred Mina** announced the irrigation work for the Hoop House tables is complete and cost less than \$700. Anyone placing plants on an empty table must be sure the water valve is turned on, as the valves will be shut off to save water.

Webmaster – **Amanda Kiel** requested the Board determine who should receive the emailed 'Weekly Weeder'. The Board authorized the Membership Committee to provide Amanda with a list of paid members and retired or emeritus members. 'Drop-Outs' will be removed from the list.

Field Trips – **Merry MacBarb** announced a potential fall day-trip to Bald Head Island with a tour led by the Conservancy.

EXTENSION COORDINATORS' REPORTS AND UPDATES:

No staff presented reports for the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Hickmans Crossroads Green Thumbs proposal was submitted to the Board by **Mary Dixon**. She documented a need for approximately \$300 to be used in Community Outreach by the Master Gardener

members who work to beautify the library grounds while working with library patrons. The Board recommended a \$500 line item be created in the budget for Community Outreach. Mary will take this proposal to the general membership for approval.

A bus trip to Brookgreen Gardens coordinated with the New Hanover and Pender County Master Gardeners is scheduled for May 17. Twelve seats are available for Brunswick County Master Gardeners.

Jeanne Pavero stressed the need to encourage other BCMGVA members to 'step up' for Executive Board positions, in particular the Treasurer and Publicity posts.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25am.

Submitted by Anne Coleman
Recording Secretary