

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2017

President, **Jeanne Pavero**, called the meeting to order at 9am. In attendance were Hank Rapp, Gloria Rapp, Jeanne Pavero, Mary Dixon, Fred Mina, Donna Coulson, Sam Marshall, Vicki Fuhrmann, Shawn Lennon and Anne Coleman.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President **Jeanne Pavero** recapped the successful May plant sale and reminded everyone the on-line plant sale will occur in August and September.

President Pavero will contact the New Hannover Master Gardeners to join forces in future Association trips.

BOARD ACCEPTANCE:

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

Financial Report – **Hank Rapp** submitted the May Treasurer's Report recapping various income items from late plant sales and donations. He reported ticket sales for the Native Plant Seminar speaker netted \$757. The ending balance for the month of May was \$46,321.84, and the report was accepted.

Jeanne Pavero will contact **Pat Sams** to put to work the remaining \$700 scholarship funds still available towards other summer camps for groups such as the 4-H.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Corresponding Secretary – President Pavero reported **Dotti Hunkele** sent correspondence to **James Taylor**.

Speakers – An Agronomist will be the speaker at the June General Meeting.

Field Trips – **Merry MacBarb** is pursuing a fall trip to Bald Head Island.

Liaison Committee – **Donna Coulson** reported on the State Meeting held in early June at NCSU. Topics such as Attribution and Branding were covered. The BCMGVA endowment check for the state scholarship program will be submitted at the next meeting in September.

Publicity – The next Leland DIY class is full, but **Donna Coulson** stated more publicity access is needed in the southern Brunswick County areas to improve coverage. Oak Island supports the BCMGVA programs by inserting flyers in water bills. NextDoor.com provides another access point to inform the public.

Hardscape – **Fred Mina** reported he will construct a secure area within 'the fort' to house power tools. He suggested the Botanical Garden may benefit from purchasing a Light Meter. Cost is estimated between \$400 and \$450. This type of meter keys off photosynthesis thereby providing an accurate measure for plant materials in the garden.

Hank Rapp inquired about three unused budget items totaling \$3500. Fred stated these were set as contingency funds. The next budget may be written with a less specific, more general contingency line item.

The repair of the motor for the waterfall was paid for by the Extension Office. **Shawn Lennon** recommended a motion sensor be installed to extend the life of the motor.

Plant Sale Committee- **Vicki Fuhrmann** cleaned and set to order the potting shed, predicting there are sufficient cleaned pots to last the summer with the exception of 1 gallon pots. The Metro Mix supply is adequate and Daddy Pete's will be replenished in July. Vicki estimated the Botanical Garden is using more soil while the Plant Sale is using more pots.

Mary Dixon requested more pots for the upcoming pepper trials. She stated the hoop house and green house are too warm to start any cool season crops. **Sam Marshall** suggested the Evaporating Cooling System needs updating.

Vicki would like to establish a propagation practicum team. This team would go beyond simply watering. She expects it would be in charge of everything related to propagation including maintaining pots and soil as well as seed collection. **Sam Marshall** suggested a Plant Collector's License may be required for this.

Vicki reminded the board the fall on-line plant sale will be different from years past. Johnson's Nursery will handle the sale, and the association will receive a donation check for the net proceeds of 25% of sales. The association will not own any plants in the sale.

EXTENSION COORDINATORS' REPORTS AND UPDATES:

Shawn Lennon introduced information about a new lawn mower for the Botanical Garden. The county owned mower has experienced many breakdowns and his recommendation was to replace it. One mower he received a bid on is a new 2016 model Zero Turn 48" Exmark for \$5080. Shawn will obtain at least 3 bids on other mowers. The board agreed the mower will not be owned by the association. The board voted to present his request to the general membership for the purchase of a mower not to exceed \$6000. Funds for this purchase would come from the association reserves.

Sam Marshall stated the fall Master Gardener class has openings and more publicity is needed to encourage additional students. **Donna Coulson** offered to compose a brief advertisement to be sent to HOA's and community information boards. Forwarding to emails of Plant Sale patrons and all House Call participants was also recommended.

Sam spoke about further community outreach with the Shallotte Community Garden. He and **Tom Woods** are exploring additional outreach such as beach restoration with Sea Oats, increasing their presence in outlying areas such as Ashe and Northwest Brunswick County, and partnering with the Master Food Volunteer program.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35am.

Submitted by Anne Coleman
Recording Secretary