

## NC State Extension Master Gardener<sup>sm</sup> Volunteer Association of Brunswick County

### Executive Board Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2017

President, **Jeanne Pavero**, called the meeting to order at 9am. In attendance were Hank Rapp, Jeanne Pavero, Fred Mina, Vicki Fuhrmann, Maryann Horgan, Dottie Hunkele, Shawn Lennon and Anne Coleman.

#### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

President **Jeanne Pavero** introduced an idea from her summer meeting with the New Hanover Master Gardeners. Their Executive Board conducts their monthly meeting on the same day as the General Membership Meeting thereby saving board members a second trip. The subsequent discussion yielded opinions for both options and further investigation. The New Hanover association also has a Field Trip Education Committee of three people. Jeanne asked the board to consider if a similar committee structure would be beneficial.

Restitution requested funds to cover the repair of a leak in the Hoop House. **Fred Mina** will meet with **Anita Handler** to determine location of leak and extent of repairs needed.

The Scholarship Committee requested an additional \$418 to cover the balance needed for two 4-H students to attend a Youth Healthy Living Summit in Washington, DC next year. The total fee is \$1118 for both students, and will come from the 2017 budget due to timing of payment. The board authorized the additional funds, and requested the Scholarship Committee extend an invitation to all 4-H scholarship recipients to attend the December Recognition meeting.

#### **BOARD ACCEPTANCE:**

Minutes - The August 2017 Executive Board Meeting minutes submitted by **Maryann Horgan** were amended to reflect a correction regarding the pass-along plants. Plants are to be brought to **Amanda Kiel** rather than **Debbie Duffy**.

Financial Report - **Hank Rapp** reviewed the August Treasurer's report previously posted in the Weekly Weeder. The dissolution of the Winding River Garden Club yielded a \$580 donation. Hank began the process of changing the Association name at the state, the bank and the accountant. The ending balance for August was \$43,693.25

The board determined no need to post the General Meeting Minutes other than in the Weekly Weeder, and the Treasurer's Report will continue to be in the Weekly Weeder as well as a hand-out at the General Meeting. An announcement will be made instructing those few members who require non-electronic receipt of these reports will be accommodated.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Corresponding Secretary – **Dottie Hunkele** issued Thank You notes to the Winding River Garden Club and last month's general meeting speaker on bats. A note of sympathy was sent to **Ellie Bierman** on the passing of her brother, and a 'thinking of you' note was sent to Charles Dixon, **Mary Dixon's** husband.

Dottie reported receipt of a Thank You note from a 'House Calls' recipient and a letter from 'Becky's Bulbs' covering the association's earnings in June.

Liaison Committee – **Vicki Fuhrmann** reported **Donna Coulson** will attend the next state quarterly meeting.

Botanical Garden Committee- **Maryann Horgan** announced the September committee meeting was devoted to signage. A representative of the sign company reviewed the process for designing the garden signs and recommended a lower priced model to fit the committee's budget. A 5-year sign will cost \$95 not including bracket and installation. Each garden is designing their own sign within a specific format so as to not incur additional fees for extra proofs. The signs will be 18"x24" in the portrait format on a light background. The committee will order 6 signs which will be paid from the 2018 budget.

Representatives of the various gardens spoke to the current Master Gardener class. The students will be required to attend two workdays in the gardens by the end of January 2018, and provide an additional 10 hours of Botanical Garden time by the end of 2018. Maryann will issue 'passports' to document their visits.

**Dottie Hunkele** reported on the Children's Garden progress. The fence will be installed at the end of September by Martin Home Repair with materials purchased from Lowe's Building Supply.

**Jeanne Pavero** received a request from **Pat Sams** to hire an arborist to rid the children's garden area of dangerous and low lying limbs. **Fred Mina** stated the Extension Office could issue a work order to accomplish the task.

Membership – The association will pay state dues for any member who makes a request at the January meeting.

Plant Sale – **Vicki Fuhrmann** reported the online plant sale is expected to generate a profit (donation) of \$1900 on the sale of approximately 500 plants with a retail value of \$9500.

When asked, Vicki stated she would not likely use the same vendor in the future. It was agreed by the board the website from Johnson's was not up to the association's standards, and lessened the opportunity for Master Gardeners to provide community outreach.

Going forward Vicki would like to have new as well as more members on the Plant Sale Committee to shoulder the heavy workload the plant sales incur.

#### **EXTENSION COORDINATORS' REPORTS AND UPDATES:**

**Shawn Lennon** expressed a desire to assist all gardens, but would not be able to perform weeding tasks. That will be the responsibility of the garden teams.

Electricity service for the proposed herb garden will be installed pending the completion of the cafeteria work by the county. Pea gravel has been placed in the Back Door Garden for drainage by the county. A layer of decorative rock will be placed on top.

A hardscape gravel path is planned through the Secret Garden, and a turf demonstration area is proposed in the space between the Southern Living Garden and the Edible Landscape Demonstration Garden. A focal point sculpture may be included.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Fred Mina** announced the 'Newcomer's Packet' is being revised.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45am.

Submitted by Anne Coleman  
Recording Secretary