

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

General Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2017

In the absence of President **Jeanne Pavero** the meeting was called to order by Vice President **Mary Dixon** at 9am with 37 members present. Refreshments for the meeting were supplied by **Mary Ann Gregory, Nancy Mertens** and **Vicki Fuhrmann**.

President's Message

Vice President Dixon displayed several updated tri-fold brochures to advertise the services and functions of the BCMGVA. She urged members to offer these as handouts at other social meetings.

A watering schedule for the hoop house and greenhouse is needed. Mary passed a sign-up sheet for volunteers.

Craig Farland is in charge of a tomato plant trial. Five varieties are available.

Two volunteers are needed to serve on a scholarship committee.

Membership Acceptance

The Minutes from the January 2017 meeting submitted by **Anne Coleman** were accepted with no revisions.

Hank Rapp presented and the membership approved the January 2017 Treasurer's Report showing an ending balance of \$40,015.40.

Committee Reports

Correspondence – **Dotti Hunkele** sent a condolence card to the Chase family on the passing of **Nancy Chase**, a former member.

Membership – **Kay Swenson** reminded the membership of the March 30 deadline for annual dues. To date the association has 54 paid members.

Liaison to State – **Vicki Fuhrmann** announced the state meeting will be held on the campus of NC State University in Raleigh.

Plant Sale Committee – The first sale is scheduled for April 21 – 22, and the Native Plant Sale will occur on May 19-20. **Vicki Fuhrmann** announced the speaker at the Native Plant Seminar to be held the day before the sale will be Dr. Larry Mellichamp, author of Native Plants of the Southeast.

Botanical Garden Committee – **Mary Dixon** reported volunteers are needed in the Sunny Perennial Boardwalk Garden led by **Cathy Matheson**. The Rain Garden, the Back Entrance Garden and the Children's Garden also requested volunteers.

Mary stated each garden will be asked to submit a written description and history of the development of the garden to be included in the visitor's mailbox.

Amanda Kiel secured a drone to photograph the garden for mapping purposes. Because the waterfall was not operating at the time the drone pictures will be redone.

Hardscape – **Bob Kiley** and **Bill Duffy** built and installed a bench with pergola in the Edible Landscape Garden.

Webmaster – **Amanda Kiel** reminded the membership all submissions need to be transmitted to her electronically in print ready form by Friday afternoons for publication on Sundays.

Speakers – **Pat Sams** announced the speaker for the day's meeting is Christopher Shank, new director of the Bald Head Island Conservancy.

Publicity – An assistant volunteer is needed for this committee as well as the Speakers Committee.

Trips - **Merry MacBarb** announced the Green Swamp field trip is over-subscribed, and **Sam Marshall** will offer a similar trip in the fall. The Orchid Society of Wilmington is sponsoring 'Big Blooming Orchid Day' on March 25. BCMGVA members can earn 2 educational hours credit for attending.

Extension Coordinators Reports and Updates

Sam Marshall reported 4 candidates will begin the interview process for Botanical Garden Curator in early March. Members of the prior Advanced Vegetable and Propagation Classes were invited to participate in the upcoming Shallotte Community Garden Education series beginning in early March. The Lincoln Elementary School in Leland will install a Pollinator Garden in the near future.

Tom Woods announced the DIY classes offered at county libraries is a success. He stated consumer calls are focusing on turf questions and fertilizer.

Anita Handler reported Restitution participation numbers for January. They began the month with 12 students, released 9, took in an additional 15 and finished the month with 18. They treated fire ant mounts throughout the property, sowed seeds for their section of the Botanical Garden and cleaned out one of the sheds. Anita stated Restitution will provide labor for fence and shed painting. More volunteers are welcome.

Morgan King announced mentors are needed for the 15 participants in the Southport JMG program.

New Business

Al Hight is the scheduled speaker at the Coastal Garden Club meeting Monday February 27.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00am.

Speaker: Christopher Shank, BHI Conservancy

Submitted by Anne Coleman
Recording Secretary