

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

General Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2016

President Horgan called the meeting to order at 9am with 37 members present. Refreshments for the meeting were supplied by **Anne Coleman** and **Dianne Frederes**.

President's Message

The Hickman Library Info Desk Search for Excellence application submitted by **Anne Coleman** received first place in the state competition, and **Maryann Horgan's** submittal of the 'Hands on Horticulture' application placed third in the international competition.

President Horgan welcomed the new class of Master Gardeners, and requested the membership complete a survey to gather data on activities conducted by the association.

New Hanover and Pender counties have been invited to join Brunswick County in the 2018 Holland Trip fundraiser.

President Horgan listed a summary of accomplishments made in recent years: increased communication inside the association and outreach to the community, updated by-laws, botanical garden proposition protocols, improved delivery of educational programs countywide, in-house propagation yielding improved bottom line income, increased garden tours from outside groups, improvements to the botanical garden irrigation system and walkway, arbor and fountain installed in the rose garden, successful spring, native and on-line plant sales, and a Brunswick Community College scholarship.

Membership Acceptance

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

The October Treasurer's Report submitted by **Merry MacBarb** was accepted by the membership.

The 2017 budget was also submitted for ratification. Estimates of income from education programs and non-taxable plant sales were purposely conservative relative to 2016 as public interest cannot be projected. On the expense side scholarships were increased to \$2000, and the BCMGVA will pay dues for all members in good standing for state membership. President Horgan explained the large sum allotted to garden expansion will only be needed if 2 new gardens are installed. **Steve Anderman** questioned the funding amounts for proper maintenance of the hoop house and greenhouse. The 2017 budget was accepted with no revisions.

Old Business

Jack Bendy presented the following nominating committee recommendations for the 2017 officer positions: President- **Jeanne Pavero**, Vice President – **Mary Dixon**, Recording Secretary – **Anne Coleman**, Treasurer – **Hank Rapp**, Corresponding Secretary – **Dotti Hunkele**. The officer slate was voted on and accepted by the

membership. The 2017 nominating committee will be comprised of **Judi Thuer, Diane Frederes** and **Gayle Pfeiffer**. The following committee heads will serve in 2017: Membership – **Lynn Eriquez** and **Kay Swenson**, Liaison to NCEMGVA – **Donna Coulson** and **Vicki Fuhrmann**, Hardscape – **Fred Mina**, Botanical Garden – **Maryann Horgan**, Plant Sale – **Vicki Fuhrmann**, Webmaster – **Amanda Kiel**, Speakers and Library – **Sonia Smith** and **Pat Sams**, History/Publicity – **Donna Coulson** and **Mary Dixon**, and Social – **Diane Frederes**.

Committee Reports

Membership – **Lynn Eriquez** announced the membership has grown to 89 with the addition of graduates from the 2016 Master Gardener class.

Liaison Committee – **Vicki Fuhrmann** reported the state convention will be held in Raleigh at NCSU June 8-11.

Hardscape – New spigots for the hoop house have been purchased. **Fred Mina** suggested a greenhouse manager be appointed or employed to oversee the day to day maintenance of the hoop house and greenhouse.

Botanical Garden Committee – **Maryann Horgan** stated the committee will begin actively recruiting new members in January. Each garden will have two leaders per the successful Edible Garden plan.

Plant Sale Committee – A propagation workday is scheduled for November 18 at 1-4. **Vicki Fuhrmann** invited new members to join the committee and fill vacancies. She announced the 2017 sale dates: Spring Sale – April 21-22, Native Plant Sale – May 19-20 and the On-Line Plant Sale – 3 weeks in August. Vicki will order more BCMGVA polo shirts in January.

Publicity – Donna Coulson reported the next DIY classes are already being well received.

Social – The next meeting will be the party and awards ceremony on December 8.

Extension Coordinators Reports and Updates

Monica Bender from Restitution reported participation is down due to pressures placed on schools to handle more issues in-house. The program began the month with 6, added 3 new students, graduated 3 and ended the month with 6 participants. Monica reported the students have taken pride in the garden they manage, and she encouraged more members to volunteer with the program.

President Horgan announced Extension staff member, **Michelle Cousineau**, is moving back to Maine. A gift of appreciation was presented from the association.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20am.

Speaker: Tom Ericson from the Transplanted Garden.

Submitted by Anne Coleman
Recording Secretary