

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

General Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2016

President Horgan called the meeting to order at 9am with 19 members present. No refreshments due to meeting location in Commissioners' Chambers.

President's Message

The president requested all present complete an anonymous survey which will provide more information on our membership and possibly assist when requesting additional help and funds from the county commissioners.

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 was successful in inserting information about the botanical garden in the Parks and Recreation section of the Chamber of Commerce website. She urged the membership to suggest other information sites that feature similar postings.

The botanical garden recently hosted guests from OLLI and 8th grade students from the STEM Program. President Horgan expressed appreciation to all members who assisted in the tours.

Membership Acceptance

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

Merry MacBarb submitted the September Treasurer's Report. After the successful On-Line Plant Sale total receipts now exceed \$63 thousand for 2016. The ending balance for the month was \$41,721. The report was accepted by membership.

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 will be voted on at the November general meeting.

Committees

Liaison Committee – **Vicki Fuhrmann** reported on her meeting with the state organization. She will provide a brief outline of the benefits from state membership. The state convention will be held in June and will concentrate on training. It will be held in Raleigh at NCSU and will be called 'Master Gardener College'.

Botanical Garden Committee – **Maryann Horgan** reported **Dotti Hunkele** and **Pat Sams** presented their plan for development of a Children's Garden, focusing on safety issues first. **Ellie Bierman** reviewed three options the Rose Garden Committee is considering regarding the fountain: repair current fountain, repair fountain and install different bubbler, or use existing landscape base and install new tiered fountain in center. She will review options with **Michele Cousineau**. Ellie also thanked members of the Edible Garden who assisted in perennial planting the previous week. President Horgan announced the proposed Japanese Garden committee needs more volunteers.

Plant Sale Committee – The On-Line Plant Sale reported by **Vicki Fuhrmann** netted approximately \$7 thousand. She was pleased to note the use of more local suppliers, and the Pass-Along plants yielded approximately 16% of all sales. Vicki stated the three plant sales in 2016 netted approximately \$18 thousand. Going forward Vicki asked for feedback to plan for next year. The Spring Plant Sale is tentatively scheduled for April 7-8, the Native Plant Sale on May 19-20, and the On-Line Plant Sale 3 weeks in August.

Speakers and Library – **Sonia Smith** announced the November speaker will be Tom Ericson from The Transplanted Garden in Wilmington. No speaker is needed for December. Kent Smith from the NC DOT will speak in January. Sonia is pursuing a speaker from Airlie Gardens and Charlotte Glenn for future meetings.

Field Trips – Bev Mastrovitch presented information regarding a 2018 trip to Holland and Belgium the membership could use as a fundraiser for BCMGVA.

Extension Coordinators Reports and Updates

Michele Cousineau talked about Laurel Wilt Disease wrongly reported in oak trees .She also cautioned about an increase in fire ant activity.

Sam Marshall announced the new Master Gardener class will have its graduation ceremony on Tuesday, November 1 at 9:30. There are twelve people in the class. Their class project will involve cataloguing pesticide, herbicide and fungicide availability in the major garden centers around Brunswick County.

Sam reported the Almanac Gardener visited the botanical garden recently. The shows will air next year.

The next advanced propagation class will begin in January.

Sam supplied information on Crape Myrtle Bark Scale and asked to be notified if found in our area.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35am.

Speaker: No speaker at this meeting.

Submitted by Anne Coleman
Recording Secretary