

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

General Meeting Minutes

September 22, 2016

President Horgan called the meeting to order at 9am with 25 members present. Refreshments were supplied by **Mary Dixon** and **Donna Coulson**.

President's Message

President Horgan asked the membership to recognize the Nominating Committee for their hard work. **Judi Thuer** announced the committee is still in need of a Treasurer for the coming year.

Membership Acceptance

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

In the absence of **Merry MacBarb Maryann Horgan** provided deposit and withdrawal amounts for August. Funds received largely came from the 'Day in the Yard' and 'House Calls' programs. The report was accepted by the membership.

Old Business

The President reminded membership all 2017 budget requests are due by October 14.

Members of the Board met previously with the extension staff to develop ideas to increase the Association's community outreach and discuss maintenance needs of the Botanical Garden. As a possible way to increase funding from the county the membership was urged to diligently submit volunteer hours and contacts made to the Extension website. Appreciation by the County Commissioners for the Botanical Garden and the visitors it draws could yield needed funds to assist in its maintenance. **Maryann Horgan** contacted the Chamber of Commerce who will begin to include information regarding the Botanical Garden in its publications.

The BCMGVA has contributed 5,967 volunteer hours year to date, just short of the annual goal set at 6,000 hours. President Horgan recognized **John Walters** with a 'Rookie of the Year' award for having volunteered 193 hours. **Sam Marshall** gave a brief tutorial on accessing the Extension Website and how to post contacts and volunteer hours.

Committees

Corresponding Secretary – **Dotti Hunkele** sent a 'thank you' note to last month's speaker and a sympathy note to **Kay Swenson**. Dotti read a 'thank you' note received from **Jenny Newton**.

Liaison Committee – **Donna Coulson** announced the State Conference will be held in Raleigh June 11, 2017.

Dues to the state association are \$10.

Botanical Garden Committee – **Dotti Hunkele** and **Pat Sams** are co-chairs for the proposed Children’s Garden. They plan to meet with the Hardscape committee to discuss projects and a fence. **JoAnn Edwards-Norman** and **Sandra McIver** met to discuss development of a Japanese Garden. More members are needed for both gardens.

Plant Sale Committee – **Vicki Fuhrmann** announced the on-line plant sale posted \$19,680 in sales. Volunteers are still needed to assist in unloading plants on September 26 and 27. Members were urged to fill the time slots remaining for volunteer hours during the sale. ‘Pass-Along Plants’ for the sale may be dropped off any days before the sale with Vicki.

Webmaster – **Amanda Kiel** requested members report to her any out of date material on the ‘Weekly Weeder’ as well as the website.

Extension Coordinators Reports and Updates

In response to her request for bids from three landscape companies on maintenance of the Botanical Garden **Michele Cousineau** received one all-inclusive bid for \$1,925 per month. The scope of work can be adjusted to lower the fee. No other bids were submitted.

New Business

President Horgan reminded the members of the upcoming visits from OLLLI and the House Calls recipients. With only 2 responses for the House Calls Garden Party received the garden Party may be cancelled.

The October meeting will be held in the Commissioner’s Chambers at the Administration Building. A representative from the cruise company promoting a 2018 River Cruise will be the speaker for this abbreviated meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00am.

Speaker: Craig Connelly from ‘The Hive’

Submitted by Anne Coleman
Recording Secretary