

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

General Meeting Minutes

March 23, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President **Jeanne Pavero** at 9am with 45 members present. Refreshments for the meeting were supplied by **Marianne Bell, Pat Sams, and Joanne Bendy**.

President's Message

President Pavero directed attention to the 'What's in Bloom' table in the lobby. The new, large and colorful sign hanging over the table was made by **Gina Britton**.

Jeanne reminded the membership to post their volunteer hours on the website. Brunswick County has fallen to 9th place, and Jeanne challenged a return to 8th place by the end of the quarter.

The Gardening by the Month book, recently revised under the supervision of **Mary Dixon**, is available for sale to the public at a price of \$20. Discounts are available to registered Master Gardeners (\$10) and Botanical Garden tour group participants (\$15). The cost to produce each book is \$6.91.

Two volunteers are needed to handle sales of the book at upcoming Botanical Garden Tours.

A request was made for a volunteer to fill **Shirley Waggoner-Eisenman's** shoes as soil sample gatherer in the Shallotte area.

President Pavero reminded all who use the hoop house, greenhouse and potting shed to clean the areas after use.

Membership Acceptance

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

Hank Rapp presented and the membership approved the February 2017 Treasurer's Report showing an ending balance of \$40,050.13. Hank offered a helpful reminder to think of Tax Day as also a day to pay (apply) fertilizer to our plants.

Committee Reports

Correspondence – **Dotti Hunkele** read a 'thank you' note received from the St. James Garden Club with an enclosed \$50 donation.

Membership – **Lynn Eriquez** announced the Discount Cards are available for paid members.

Hardscape – **Fred Mina** reported the new structures in the Botanical Garden are the results of the efforts of **Deborah Duffy, Bill Duffy** and **Bob Kiley**

Botanical Garden Committee – Committee Chair **Maryann Horgan** reported the waterfall was turned off for the winter months. Through word of mouth the garden has been requested for tours by several other organizations. Maryann expects approximately 30 people on March 28 for a tour promoted by **Sam Marshall**, followed by more tours on April 18th and April 25th. There is a less formal tour scheduled between sessions of the Native Plant Seminar on April 20th, and a similar tour will occur with Oak Island Parks and Recreation on June 20th.

Maryann reported the garden formerly known as the sunny perennial border garden will be re-named the pollinator garden. She requested membership bring old garden implements to be used in the decoration of the 'Fort' which will be spruced up by Restitution with a new application of stain.

Plant Sale Committee – **Vicki Fuhrmann** announced the volunteer slots for the April Plant sale have been posted by **Tom Woods** on the website. She stated the exact plants to be offered in the sale will be known in a week.

The cost for the speaker engaged for the May Native Plant Seminar is \$1000 including travel expenses. Dr. Mellichamp will have his book available for sale. Tickets will be sold on line at \$10 per person with free entry for registered Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteers. Entrance will be capped at 100 persons per session.

James Taylor reported the Florence Farmers Market is hosting its annual Pee Dee Plant and Flower Festival on April 20-23.

Speakers – **Pat Sams** announced the speaker at the meeting will be **Sam Marshall**.

Trips – **Janet Schmehl** is the designated leader for the Green Swamp outing scheduled for March 28th.

Extension Coordinators Reports and Updates

Tom Woods scheduled a second House Calls workshop session following the meeting and speaker.

Sam Marshall reported he and two BCMGVA members installed a pollinator garden at Lincoln Elementary School the previous week. The Shallotte Community Garden has begun Saturday workshops for interested vegetable gardeners. BCMGVA volunteers are welcome. The 'Hands-On-Horticulture' program for Brunswick County 6th graders is scheduled for the first week in April.

New Business

A 7th class will be added to the Fall DIY presentations covering Native Plants. Hank Rapp informed the membership the county's 'Free Dump Week' is scheduled for April 10-15. President Pavero closed the meeting with an expression of thanks to **Amanda Kiel** for her efforts in maintaining the 'Weekly Weeder'.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45am.

Speaker: Sam Marshall

Submitted by Anne Coleman
Recording Secretary