

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association

General Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Vice President **Mary Dixon** at 9am with 32 members present. Refreshments for the meeting were supplied by **Dominique Loewenstein, Joann LaMarca** and **Gayle Pfeiffer**.

President's Message

Mary reported the April Plant Sale was a success particularly with all the great volunteers. She expressed appreciation for their efforts on behalf of the association.

Membership Acceptance

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

The April Treasurer's Report prepared by **Hank Rapp** and submitted by **Mary Dixon** was approved by the membership. Ending Balance for the month was \$38,861.44.

Mary Dixon brought two items approved by the Board at their April meeting and recommended for presentation to the membership for approval. The first was a line item addition to the budget for Community Outreach in the amount of \$500. As approved she proposed the first recipients be the Hickmans Crossroads Library Green Thumbs who beautify the library entrance while also providing instruction to library patrons. Membership supported this recommendation.

Her second entry was a request to increase the Publishing Budget line item by \$3000 to cover the additional needed copies of the revised Gardening by the Month book. She stated this book has become the 'Calling Card' for the Association when conducting House Calls as well as part of the curriculum for the DIY classes. The membership approved this request.

Committee Reports

Correspondence – **Dotti Hunkele** issued two 'Thank You' notes for the Green Swamp Field Trip: one to **Sam Marshall** for conducting the tour and one to **Judy Koehly** providing transportation.

Membership – There are now 79 paid members for 2017, and Discount Cards are available.

Liaison Committee – **Vicki Fuhrmann** reported the annual meeting will take place in June. There are state level discussions underway regarding copyright issues for published material produced by Master Gardeners. **Mary Dixon** stated this copyright question has been an issue for some time.

Woody Taylor will mentor three 4H students who were reviewed and approved by the Scholarship Committee. Each were approved for a BCMGVA \$100 scholarship for partial coverage of the summer Horticulture Camp tuition.

Plant Sale Committee – **Vicki Fuhrmann** reported there were 100 plus people standing in line for the opening of the April Plant Sale where sales totaled approximately \$20,000. She stated half of the sales were conducted using credit cards and thanked all volunteers for making the sale a success.

The Native Plant Sale in May will need volunteers to assist in setting up the room prior to the first session. **Mark Blevins** purchased 4 of Dr. Mellichamp's books, the seminar speaker, to donate to Brunswick County Libraries.

Botanical Garden Committee – **Maryann Horgan** introduced **Sean Lennon**, the new Botanical Garden Curator. She asked for members to donate old garden implements for an art collage on the side of the 'fort'. Several Garden Tours are reserved, each requiring volunteer docents and speakers. **Cathy Matheson** requested assistance in the Pollinator Garden with plant identification and maintenance. **JoAnn Edwards-Norman** needs assistance in starting the Japanese Garden.

Hardscape – **Fred Mina** thanked **Steve Anderman** and **Bob Kiley** for their assistance in the hoop house irrigation system renovation.

Speakers – **Sonia Smith** announced the meeting speaker is Robin Weir from 'Wild by Nature'. Sonia approached the Poplar Grove Plantation in Wilmington for a potential meeting speaker.

Publicity – **Donna Coulson** requested early notice for publicity as she will be traveling extensively.

Field Trips – **Merry MacBarb** is pursuing a field trip for the association to Bald Head Island in the fall. The Wilmington Cape Fear Rose Garden Tour is scheduled for May 13, and Proven Winners will host a seminar on May 31 sponsored by the Country Club of Landfall.

Extension Coordinators Reports and Updates

Tom Woods reported a net number of 68 House Call requests with Leland showing the most growth in activity. Season to date he received 22 completed reports and handled 7 'turf only' requests. Gypsy Moths were reported by **Bob Schortau** in south Brunswick. The NC Department of Agriculture is now spraying for control. **Paul Soltero** recommended Tom locate a larger venue for the Leland DIY classes.

Sam Marshall announced the Hands on Horticulture program will proceed this season with approximately 30 Home-Schooled students. A conflict with the Public School calendar caused the county schools to cancel. Sam and **Sean Lennon** are treating for fire ants on the garden grounds.

Anita Handler reported the Restitution group began March with 17 students, added 10, graduated 11 and ended the month with 16. Fiscal year to date the office has served 78 clients.

New Business

Maryann Horgan provided new Holland Trip flyers. **Ellie Bierman** invited all members to assist in applying Alfalfa Tea to the roses after the meeting. **Mary Dixon** announced a Peppers Trial will begin in June.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15am.

Speaker: Robin Weir, Wild by Nature

Submitted by Anne Coleman
Recording Secretary