

Henrico Master Gardener Association Board Meeting

Minutes: September 2, 2009

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Ann Dutton at 1:05 p.m..

Minutes: The previous month's minutes were sent to and approved by Board members and committee chairs.

Reports from Committees and Officers

Treasurer: Barry Hayes reported that we have \$3,461.40 in the checking account. We are currently in the black for the Harvest Fair and have paid for the Harvest Fair shirts.

1st Vice President: Ann Dutton reported for Erica Gilliam on upcoming programs. The September speaker will be Kevin Damian, the "Garlic Man", speaking on how to grow and harvest garlic. He will have garlic for sale at the meeting.

The October meeting will feature Norie Burnet and will be a power-point presentation on her moss garden. There is also the potential for a field trip to Norie's garden on October 21 at 1:00 p.m. She has asked for a \$50.00 fee which the Board needs to approve. Mary Vetrovec moved that we approve the \$50.00 fee for the garden tour. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board.

The November meeting will be the 18th instead of the 11th because of Veteran's Day and the speaker will be A. J. Griffin who is head horticulturist at the Governor's mansion.

2nd Vice President: Lisa Sanderson reported that she and Grace Harrison will meet soon to work on the advanced training schedule.

Corresponding Secretary: Lisa Sanderson reported that Brenda Orton lost her nephew this week. Theresa Hawkes will send a card. No other cards have been sent.

Master Gardening Training: John Sartin reported for Jim Smith about the recent training committee meeting. The class schedule is set and speakers are being contacted by committee members to confirm their participation. Ann mentioned that mentor/mentee guidelines were created and submitted by Doug Green to the committee and she would like to share those with the Board. In the document, he has outlined a protocol for mentors to follow as they partner with new trainees. There have been approximately 40 applications for the 2010 training class received (number provided by Teddy Martin). Lisa Sanderson and Teddy Martin reported that there will be a press release in October to advertise the class. Information is currently on Henrico channel 17.

Helpline: Gwen Hipp reported that the Helpline schedule continues to have empty slots and that there continue to be no-shows. Almost every afternoon in September is open. Ann Dutton suggested that we form a team to work on the problem. Lisa Sanderson

agreed that a group might investigate different ideas for the helpline - for example, an e-mail address for the master gardeners manning the helpline. Ann will review the issue at the Association Meeting next week and ask for volunteers for the team.

Communications:

Service, Recognition and Historical: Joyce shared several recent newspaper articles with the Board. There are still several Master Gardeners that have turned in no hours for 2009.

S.M.A.R.T. Lawns: Teddy Martin reported that there have been 68 lawns scheduled this year. Ten were received this week.

Teddy also reported that the MG shirts are in and ready for pick-up. We ordered 33 shirts and 34 were received. Also, the neck coolers approved by the Board at the last meeting have been received.

JMG: Faye Derkits reported that they finished the programs at the Goddard School. They will be working several events in September including the Garden Festival, State Fair and Harvest Fair.

Special Events: Judy Burton reported that she needs volunteers for the State Fair. She has the dates and times for anyone interested. Lisa will be visiting the fair site on September 4th and will determine if there will be a charge for parking or whether we will receive a parking pass.

Ann Dutton shared feedback from Master Gardeners concerned that the volunteer slots for the Maymont Flower and Garden Show seem to go to the same people each year. Barry Hayes suggested that we assign volunteers by using a lottery for the slots. Mary Vetrovic motioned that we create a lottery for the Maymont volunteer slots (volunteers must be association members) and that the drawing be conducted at the December reception. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board.

The Science Museum event is September 12th. We have three adjacent spaces at the event and a display has been ordered from Virginia Tech. This will be a combination Hanover County and Henrico County Master Gardening event.

Finance:

Hospitality:

Membership: Ann Dutton reported for Beverly Cochrane that we currently have 94 members.

Plant Clinics: Lisa Sanderson reported that Dave Bobst will not be doing plant clinics in the future.

Harvest Fair: John Sartin reported the following:

1. Most committees are working hard to complete their assigned tasks. The green elephant sale still has no chairperson but John will do it himself if a volunteer is not found. The major item to complete is the Handout booklet (pamphlet). John shared the booklet with the Board.
2. Registration is slow for classes. There are currently about 40 people pre-registered (35 adults and five children). You can register for classes the day of the Fair.
3. T-shirts are on order.
4. We currently have raised \$800.00 in cash, plus several in-kind donations of merchandise and services which have not yet been valued.
5. We will send out an information sheet to all Master Gardeners with information about the fair including parking and driving directions. Copies will also be available for people who don't have e-mail at next Wednesday's Association Meeting.
6. We have approximately 20 vendors signed up.

Extension Report: Lisa Sanderson reported that Andrew Freiden (WWBT weather) called and wants to interview families who are participating in the "Gardens Growing Families" program. WWBT will not be attending the Harvest Fair.

Old Business:

1. Ann Dutton reported that she will be putting the protocol that she shared with the Board last month in January's newsletter. She also mentioned that we still need a publicity person.
2. Mary Vetovec reported that the Hypertufa workshop was well-attended with 22 people making pots.
3. Lisa Sanderson reported that the pictorial directory is not complete because other items took priority. The Extension staff can work on it in September.

New Business:

In Attendance: Vickie Bell, Joyce Brannon, Judy Burton, Faye Derkits, Anne Dutton, Gwen Hipp, Theresa Hawkes, Barry Hayes, Peggy Lowry, Teddy Martin, John Sartin, Lisa Sanderson, John Simmonds and Mary Vetovec

The next board meeting will be October 7, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m..

Vickie Bell, Recording Secretary

