

# Henrico Master Gardener Association Board Meeting

Minutes: January 13, 2009

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Ann Dutton at 1:00 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 \$3,258.67 in the checking account and that there was minimal activity over the last month. The Association donated \$22.00 to the Christmas Mother Fund.

**1st Vice President:** Erica Gilliam reported on future programs. In April, Beth Burrell will be the guest speaker. The plant exchange is in May and June is the annual meeting. July's meeting will feature VDOT and their wildflower and other plant programs. In August, Kim Sinkhouse, a Hanover MG, will speak on bee keeping.

**2nd Vice President:** Grace Harrison reported that the advanced training class schedule is complete and that speakers have been arranged.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Tom Fifer had both knees replaced and Theresa Hawkes sent a card from the Association.

**Master Gardening Training:** Jim Smith reported that we will have 23 trainees in 2010 because one candidate cannot attend because of health issues and a viable replacement was not found. Tomorrow (January 14th) is the mentor/ mentee luncheon. Also, Jim has asked each committee chair to give him a synopsis of the work of their committee so they can be put in a booklet for the trainees. Also, each committee chair has been given a date to speak to the training class about their committee. A copy of the Association newsletter will be given to participants at the first meeting.

Ann commended Jim for his leadership of the training committee.

**Helpline:**

**Communications:**

**Service, Recognition and Historical:** Joyce Brannon shared the Virginia Master Gardening newsletter which includes an article written by Beverly Cochran about Henrico County MGs.

**S.M.A.R.T. Lawns:**

**JMG:** Faye Derkits and Lisa Sanderson reported that St. Catherine's school requested a ten-part class for middle school students. Faye reported that we do have the volunteer staff to handle the request and that details are still being developed. Faye also reported that the Lewis Ginter grant with St Andrews school ended so our involvement also ended.

**Special Events:** Judy Burton reported that the schedule is full for the Maymont Flower and Garden Show and Judy will send the schedule to all volunteers. This year's process for filling the Maymont volunteer schedule was not ideal and Ann is recommending a new process. Her recommendation is that a sign-up sheet be available at the November meeting and that people who did not volunteer in 2010 get the first chance to sign-up. The sheet will be available again in December for slots that have not been filled.

Information on the home show will be available for the next meeting.

#### **Finance:**

**Hospitality:** Peggy Lowry asked whether refreshments would be needed for the March 10th meeting date which is S.M.A.R.T. Lawn training. The decision was that refreshments will not be needed.

#### **Membership:**

#### **Plant Clinics:**

**Master Gardener 2010 event:** Ann Dutton reported that she and Lisa will meet around the first of February to begin planning for this event.

**Extension Report:** Lisa Sanderson reported that Angela has been working on the pictorial directory and recommends that we add the 2010 training class participants which means we would have it ready in February.

Lisa reported that Henrico MGs tallied 11,396 hours in 2009 (all hours are not in yet). A volunteer hour is valued at \$20.80 thus these hours equate to 6 full time people in the office. Mary Vetovec recommended that this information be put on the website and in the newsletter so that our membership understands the importance of what they do. Jim Smith suggested that these numbers be put before the Henrico County Board of Supervisors, if possible.

#### **Old Business:**

1. After the 2009 plant swap a survey was done to determine when MGs wanted to have the event. The preference, by a small margin, was for May and the main reason given was so gardeners will have more plant choices from their own yards to take to the event. The Board suggested that we go with the majority and schedule for May. Mary

Vetrovec offered to host the plant swap if Pat Greene cannot continue this year. Erica Gilliam will call Pat to discuss the plans for this year's event.

2. Ann reported that the Scholarship committee will meet sometime in February.
3. Ann mentioned that we still need someone for publicity. This person should be someone with expertise in this area and someone who could devote all or most of their MG hours to publicity.

**New Business:**

1. The February Board meeting (Feb. 3) needs to be moved because of the Lewis Ginter short course on the same date. Jim Smith moved and Grace Harrison seconded that we move the meeting to February 10th at 10:30. The Board approved the motion.

**In Attendance:** Pat Baskind, Vickie Bell, Joyce Brannon, Judy Burton, Faye Derkits, Ann Dutton, Erica Gilliam, Grace Harrison, Theresa Hawkes, Barry Hayes, Peggy Lowry, Lisa Sanderson, Jim Smith, Mary Vetrovec

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m..

Vickie Bell, Recording Secretary