

Henrico Master Gardener Association Board Meeting

Minutes: April 7, 2010

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Ann Dutton at 11:35 a.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 \$3,232.30 in the checking account. Also, Blooming Bucks, a program from Brent and Becky's Bulbs, is up and running.

1st Vice President: Ann Dutton reported for Erica Gilliam that there are two field trips scheduled this spring. The first is a trip to the State Capital on May 4th. Attendees must carpool because of parking issues so we will meet at the park-and-ride off Gaskins Road by 12:15 for a 1:00 tour.

The second trip is on May 10th at 1:00 when we will visit Mike Lockett's garden. Sign-up sheets for both trips will be available at the April 14th meeting. Lisa Sanderson will send out a notice to everyone since these trips did not make the latest newsletter.

Erica also wanted to remind everyone to sign up for plant swap on May 12th and the tour of Pat Greene's garden on April 15th.

2nd Vice President: Ann reported for Grace that today is the last advanced training class and that the presentation is on mosquitoes given by Randy Buchanan.

Corresponding Secretary:

Master Gardening Training: Anne reported for Jim Smith that the last intern training class was on April 1 and that all interns successfully finished the requirements. The final exam was distributed and is due back on April 12th. The post-evaluation meeting will be held the week of the 19th. Interns were asked to sign up for committees and the sheets were left with Lisa Sanderson.

Helpline: Gwen Hipp reported that the helpline is running but all shifts are not full. All but 5 Interns have turned in their sheets and veteran MGs are needed to help fill holes in the schedule to train the interns. Gwen will begin posting several months of the schedule on the website so people can sign-up for shifts.

Plant clinics:

Communications:

Service, Recognition and Historical: Joyce Brannon had several newspaper articles about MGs. Joyce has received time sheets from all but two interns and they did a great job with the sheets. Joyce also reported that she and Peggy Lowry had been working on a Corn Cookbook.

Lisa Sanderson reported that ultimately there may be a system where MGs will enter their own time.

Scholarship Program: Ann Dutton reported that the Scholarship committee will meet on May 5th.

S.M.A.R.T. Lawns: Lisa Sanderson reported that the teams are set and requests are coming in.

JMG: Faye Derkits reported that they have done events at a pre-school, day-care and at St. Catherines'. There was also an Earth Day event at an elementary school.

Special Events:

Finance:

Hospitality:

Membership: Ann reported that we have 97 members. Grace Harrison added that she has nine memberships from the intern class.

Master Gardener Education Fair: Ann reported that she and Lisa met with a group to begin planning the Fair. The next meeting is on April 12th at 11:30. The Education Fair now has it's own number on the time sheets.

The team worked on a theme for the event which will center around a "green" concept. The current model is to partner with an established event and use that event for educational opportunities. Our focus could be composting, tree smarts, sustainable landscaping, etc. Lisa Sanderson reported on the possibilities for partnering which include Glen Allen Days, the Lewis Ginter plant sale, the Maymont Herb Festival or the State Fair. Lisa and the team will continue to investigate the best partnering opportunity.

Extension Report: Lisa Sanderson reported that the pictorial directory will be ready next week. Color printing will cost about \$2.10/ copy and volunteers may be needed to help with the copying process.

Old Business:

1. 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.

2. At last month's meeting, Beverly Cochrane and Mary Vetovec were asked to spearhead the task of getting Association members to donate to the State MG Coordinator position. Ann is now recommending that we postpone a campaign with Association members because of economic uncertainty and the uncertainty about the position at Virginia Tech. The association agreed to hold the effort.

New Business:

1. Peggy reported that she and Joyce coded the books in the MG room.
2. Gwen Hipp reported that Tree Smarts is up and running at Henrico County Public Libraries. Seminars are being given at the libraries and there is a consulting program where a team will go to a home to help the homeowner. The cost is \$10.00 for homeowners. The Board suggested a presentation to the Association at the Annual Meeting.
3. A new committee was formed to recommend a bus trip for Association members. Ann suggested that a member of this committee should come to the Board meeting to update the Board.

In Attendance: Vickie Bell, Joyce Brannon, Judy Burton, Faye Derkits, Ann Dutton, Grace Harrison, Theresa Hawkes, Barry Hayes, Gwen Hipp, Peggy Lowry, Lisa Sanderson

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Vickie Bell, Recording Secretary