Board Members Present: Bill Biernacki, Pam McElroy, Jeff Olsen, Betty Orr, Linda Cook, Emilia Lacy, Charles Dallas, Anne Schatz

Others Present:  Ruth Deforest, Cathi Block, Donna Davis, Anne Irving, Liz Olsen, Peggy Biernacki

CALL TO ORDER:  Bill called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

MINUTES:  Minutes from the 14 June Board meeting are approved.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

TREASURER’S REPORT:  (Bill Biernacki)
Certificate of Deposit:  $3251.53
Checking:   $9319.51
Savings:   $4953.58
Total            $17,524.62

1ST VICE PRESIDENT:  (Pam McElroy)   The Thyme Garden Field Trip is set to go on 20 July.

Pam raised the issue of obtaining a credit or debit card linked to the LCMGA checking account for use when making payments on behalf of the organization.  After discussion, it was decided that the occasional and limited utility would not outweigh the risk involved and that the Treasurer and/or President, who both have the authority to issue checks, could provide funds in advance when necessary.

STATE REPRESENTATIVE:  (Janet Anderson)  Mini-College is in two weeks and the Silent Auction and Door Prize items donated by members are fantastic.

The OMGA committee chair for Mini-College 2011, Marilyn Shepherd, toured venue and lodging sites around Newport with Janet and Rick.  She and OMGA are overwhelmingly positive about this location and will suspend further inquiries into other locations pending our decision about hosting in 2011.  Janet spoke with the Tillamook County Master Gardener Association President, who has tentatively offered to assist us and will bring this before their next board meeting.  Janet also secured potential book sales through Bob’s Books in Lincoln City.  There is no information on the 2011 budget, but Mini-College in prior years has cost $50,000, while netting a $5,000 profit.

Much discussion ensued regarding our responsibilities before and during Mini-College, manpower requirements, financial obligations, Tillamook’s role and whether their presence was necessary, and the timeline for decision-making.  Janet said that there would be no financial requirement on our part and that all committee chair positions were filled and we could participate as little or much as we’d like.  OMGA has not pressured us for a quick decision.
Because of the volume of unanswered questions and the scale of the project, the board decided to follow Janet’s recommendation and invite Marilyn to the next board meeting for further discussion. All those with questions will email them to Janet who will compile and present them to Marilyn in advance. The membership will be informed so all interested members may attend. Following the discussion, the board would vote on the hosting.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

DEMONSTRATION GARDEN COORDINATORS – MG WEEK UPDATE

Lincoln City: (Janet Anderson) The open house went well, with an attendance of 62 counted at one point. Rick grilled burgers, chairs and benches were set up in the parking lot, and the crowd lingered and socialized. Bill sold one worm bin.

Newport: (Cathi Block) The response was very positive with 40-50 people attending, including several individuals who had made donations and who Cathi personally invited.

Yachats: (Bill Biernacki) The garden looked great and the volunteers put on a good event.

Lighthouse: (Liz Olsen) There was normal traffic for the event, although the gardens look great and there has been a great response from the educators involved.

NEW BUSINESS

Chapter Insurance Update: (Bill Biernacki) Bill met with the agent from Ken Doefler Insurance, who handles the LCMGA policy. The special rider for the 3 July Clambake was still not ready. He was advised to continue to wait, although the rider was no longer necessary, in order to get a price quote for further reference. The rider could be canceled with no cost incurred.

Discussion continued about the suitability of the current company and whether they were meeting our needs. Questions were raised over what the policy covered and Bill explained that it was a liability policy for $1 million. Further questions involved what coverage OSU and whether there is redundancy and whether we needed a policy to cover LCMGA property. It was decided that property coverage would not be practical because the deductible would exceed the price of virtually all of our property items. Liz mentioned that audit recommendations in the last couple of years included recommendations to review our policy to ensure it was in line with recommendations from OMGA and OSU.

Jeff will review OSU coverage and meet with agents to look for viable alternatives to our present policy.

August Board Meeting: (Bill Biernacki) Bill had planned to cancel the August board meeting due to his upcoming vacation, but in light of Marilyn Shepherd’s visit, the date
will be adjusted. The meeting was set for 23 August (later changed to 24 August due to a room scheduling conflict) at the usual time and location.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**GRANT GUIDELINES:** Discussion resulted in board agreement that a policy outlining the procedure for grant application for LCMGA projects by members is necessary and that a appointed position of Grant Coordinator be created to provide guidance and oversight. Anne Schatz will draft that policy for presentation at the next board meeting.

**FUNDRAISING GUIDELINES:** Discussion covered a variety of instances concerning how funds are generated, by whom, and how they would be disbursed. Emilia Lacy will draft preliminary guidelines for discussion at the next board meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 am.

Anne Schatz, Secretary
Lincoln County Master Gardener Association