The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Emilia Lacy.

Board members present: Emilia Lacy, Anne Irving, Michael Noack, Sally Noack, Rick Booth, Mark Dixon, Sally Reill, David Moffit, Pam McElroy, and Jeannie Singler. Chairs, Coordinators, and others present: Liz Olsen, Bill Biernacki, Bob Deming, Bette Bahn, and Sam Angima.

Approval of Minutes

There were several corrections/clarifications to minutes of 2/14/08. Michael Noack said we do not have proxy authorization in the Bylaws, and should perhaps add it. He also asked about the $870 request from Lincoln City Community Gardens. Anne Irving said this was the figure was used in the Presbytery Grant. Michael further stated that Rick Anderson would like to build and arbor for the Lincoln City gardens. David Moffitt will be conducting the inventory.

Motion: Sally Riell moved to approve the minutes of February 14, 2008 as amended, seconded by Anne Irving. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: Anne Irving distributed and reviewed the Treasurer’s Report. The CD has been renewed for 7 months at 3.35%, and was a $3150 rollover. She also noted that the budget discussion in February had been very brief, so we could present it to the general meeting. There will be a more in-depth discussion of the entire budget in April.

President’s Message:

Emilia Lacy stated that at the Futures meeting we focused on projects, burnout, leadership issues, and communication. There still seem to be some underlying questions. Most of today’s discussion will be on projects. We also need to present these proposals to the general meeting. Additional agenda items can be accepted if and when there is time. The Leadership Committee has met re how to develop leaders for the Board. We need to identify future leaders and examine how we encourage new leadership. She urged each Board member to bring at least one person in to be mentored. She works with the two VPs to develop the agenda. Rick Booth will preside over today’s meeting, next month Mark Dixon and Rick Booth will preside, and the following month Mark will preside. She will continue to pull together the agenda. Mark noted that this concept should work for all the other positions too.

Rick noted that with the new meeting day, we have a firm ending timeframe, and we may need to send some items to subcommittees for discussion. Michael suggested that we move meetings to 9:00 a.m.
A motion to change the start time for LCMGA Board meetings to 9:00 a.m. was made by Sally Reill, seconded by Mark Dixon, and approved (with 2 nays and 1 abstention). The meetings will run from 9:00-11:30 a.m.

Announcements and Committee Reports:

Master Gardener Class of 2008: Sam Angima thanked Bill Biernacki and Liz Olsen for their class coordination work. He also thanked all MG gardeners, veterans as teachers, Betty Bahn, Michael, and all others who contributed to the success of this year’s class. He further said this was one of the most positive classes ever. He will also have some recommendations for how to utilize MG veterans in future classes. There was a 98% return rate on the exams, and very good grades. Sam also said he has requested the same venue for next year’s class, but the church cannot commit yet.

2008 Home & Garden Show

Pam McElroy reported on status of staffing and other issues for the upcoming Home & Garden Show. She will contact Mark McConnell for newspaper publicity, and Michael will make contacts for PSAs on the radio stations. She also briefly reviewed the speakers/seminars for the H&G show. The seminars are being done through the Home & Garden Show Board, not through Master Gardeners. Sam noted that John Wilson will be doing a presentation on Integrated Pest Management using the OSU DVD, and Charles Dallas will be discussing lawn alternatives.

OMGA Report and Meeting Schedule

Michael Noack reported on the OMGA meeting held March 1st in Astoria. There was a discussion of much information re Master Gardeners being available online, such as MG and OSU calendars, OSU MG survey. And the MG program will also go online. There will be feedback evaluations at Min-College. The OMGA Bylaws were updated. The Tillamook MG program has added a new service opportunity called “Pruning for Seniors.” MGs do the pruning, and the seniors then take responsibility for debris removal. He also said that the Extension Education grant will be emailed to Sam, and the 2008 membership list is due April 1st. The Carlson Grant is due May 15th; he will put info in the newsletter on all grants, etc. An OSU MG program endowment is possible through the McNeilan Foundation. Sam added that the Lincoln County Extension office will be doing a request for foundation contributions, but MG should do donations that can be used in the county. Michael said Mini-College this year will be held July 23-26. The “Send-A-Friend” scholarship is for an MG veteran or student to attend Mini-College. LCMGA has also sent a $25 donation to “Send-A-Friend” fund. He also reviewed door prizes and silent auctions items.
Jeanie Singler said she doesn’t have the time or capability to do a chapter display. She feels a chapter display should not be the Historian’s responsibility, and perhaps those attending Mini-College could put a display together. Sally Noack reviewed history of chapter displays, and suggested that Jeanie work with several others. Anne Irving said this should be included in April discussion on projects, budgets, etc. The chapter display discussion was tabled.

**LCMGA Newsletter**

Mark Dixon reported on April newsletter status. Jeanie asked in calendar events could be presented in a block (monthly calendar) style as well to make people aware of projects, events, etc.

**Farmers Market**

Emilia noted that David Lavrinets has scheduled a set-up practice meeting for April 26th for MG students and veterans.

**Groundskeeper and Maintenance Coordinator Positions**

Emilia Lacy said Bill Hutmacher (MG class of 2008) has volunteered to fill this position. The Maintenance Coordinator position is still vacant. A Coastal Garden work party is scheduled for Saturday, March 22. The topsoil delivery is still scheduled, and Greg (Fairgrounds) will also provide horse manure. We will be adding soil to both cloches, making soil amendments to beds, and cleaning greenhouses. Anne Irving asked if 3 cubic yards of soil is too much at the Coastal Garden, and wondered if it should be split with more going to the 12th Street Garden. Sam added that we should do soil test on any delivered topsoil so we know if there are any required amendments.

**ACCESS Training**

Rick Booth said he had removed himself from the ACCESS training until Sally Noack is done with the database. Sally said she had met with Tom Kuebbing (2008 MG class) and there are many issues to discuss. This is a very dynamic data base. We must have the entire membership to OMGA by 4/1, and can then generate a directory. She will be meeting with Tom again to review the history of what is in database and why. We will have both an archival and current database with active members. The membership directory will print out hard copy in booklet format as well as spreadsheet. Anne noted that ACCESS training and maintenance of the database are two different things. ACCESS is a tool, but it requires a history of the information. Sally also noted that there is an issue of those who took the class but have not certified.

**Topsoil Delivery to Coastal Gardens**

Sally Reill asked if there was any rush to get the topsoil delivered. Last time we had topsoil delivered, it was so wet that it took nearly two years to get it into condition.
Emilia said she will be gone from 3/24 thru 4/9, and so could not track it. Mark Dixon said he could take that issue on, and asked Rick Booth and Sally Reill to assist in getting information. Sally further suggested that we continue with the scheduled work party, but just do clean-up of the beds, etc. Consensus to delay delivering topsoil until it is dryer.

**Food Share Work Party Report**

Bob Deming reported on the work party held at the Food Share gardens. All the garden beds were cleaned up and are ready to go. Bob also said he has asked Mark McConnell to put out PSAs on the community gardens. Liz Olsen said each community garden has a different focus and purpose, and Food Share should be promoted separately. Nancy from Food Share should do the publicity specific to Food Share. Sally Noack also stated that people responsible for the individual gardens should be writing articles and running them through the Publicity Chair.

**Old Business:**

Emilia said there has been a change in the usage of computers and copiers at the Extension office. We should use the HP printer (in the MG office) if we have to print in color; otherwise, everything should be done on the big copier.

**LCMGA Service Projects**

Emilia said we are currently operating under the project request form that Michael Noack brought to us from Mini-College. It answers questions about the project requirements, but we need internal clarification on how we handle the request form after we receive it. Sally Noack said we historically expected requests to come in to the Extension agent, and then have them discussed by the Board. MG class projects as set up by Sam must be worked on by the student; other projects are open to veterans, etc. Emilia suggested that only the required projects be presented to students during class. Liz Olsen noted that the community garden projects were slated to be presented at the end of the class, but that they had to be presented earlier due to schedule changes caused by the weather. Sam reviewed requirements for payback hours for the 2008 class: 30 hours are required IN the Extension Office, and the remaining 35 hours come from participation in the four required core projects. These required projects are Plant Sale, Home & Garden Show, Coastal Gardens (Fair), and the Newport Farmers Market. Other than these four, other projects can only. Be used as community hours with Sam’s approval. David Moffitt noted that gas prices are also creating a difficulty for students outside Newport. Students must get approval from Sam for alternate projects first, then they may work in other community gardens and other service opportunities for some of their community hours. Anne Irving suggested that class presentations to students on projects only be done for the required core projects.

Following extensive discussion on procedures to utilize the MG Project Request form, **A motion was made by Sally Reill, seconded by David Moffitt, that all project request forms will go first to Sam and LCMGA President for determination of**
appropriateness, then to the Board for discussion and approval, and will require commitment from a volunteer project coordinator to oversee the project before it is accepted and presented to MGs. Extension agent and President will have the discretion to approve a very simple request without the full process. The motion was approved unanimously.

Depoe Bay Kids Zone Project

Emilia reported on the electronic vote on Depoe Bay Kids Zone project. It passed with 6 ayes, and 4 nays. Kate Scopolleti (a naturalist with the Whale Center) and Mark Dettmer are interested in working on this project. Emilia will contact them to see if they are willing to serve as project liaisons/advisors. If they require more help, they can return to MG for assistance through the Help Desk. Sam said this project is approved by the Board; we have two students as liaisons, but should still have a veteran mentor until these two students certify. Anne Irving urged clarification of what is a Board project, and what is a project being publicized to the membership. Kids Zone project seems to be an MG volunteer opportunity, as opposed to a Master Gardener project.

A motion that prior vote taken by email on subject of MG sponsoring this project be rescinded was made by Anne Irving, seconded by Rick Booth, and passed unanimously.

Emilia recapped discussion: this has been approved as a Master Gardeners volunteer opportunity, there are two people who have volunteered, they will not require veteran mentoring, and their participation will be counted as community hours (exception approved by Sam) and she will notify them both of this decision.

Emilia noted that she had another proposed project request. This is a large project up at the north end of the county, and they are seeking leadership. Several people asked if this could be taken through the steps we had just approved, and have Sam and Emilia look at it. Emilia said that she feels there is a lot being laid on the President. We might want to consider that the project approval piece (working with Sam) be appointed to another Board member. There was consensus that Emilia could delegate this part of her role in circumstances where she is not able to do it.

The following items from Old Business have been tabled until April meeting: Programming (Mark Dixon), Futures Subcommittee Report (Mark Dixon).

New Business:

Fall Bulb Sale
A motion to accept the projected Fall Bulb Sale as a special event, marketing and location to be determined, was made by Anne Irving, seconded by Emilia Lacy, and approved unanimously.

Coastal Demonstration Garden Sign

Emilia urged that this be approved.

A motion to approve payment of up to $120 for labor for this sign was made by Sally Reill, seconded by Mark Dixon, and approved unanimously.

The following items from New Business have been tabled until April meeting: Nominations Committee for 2009 LCMGA Board Positions and Mentoring of Future Leaders (Emilia Lacy, Mark Dixon, Rick Booth), RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) (Emilia Lacy), and LCMGA Property Equipment List (David Moffitt).

Awards Committee Member Appointments for MG of the Year 2008 and MG of the Year Behind the Scenes 2008

A committee comprised of Michael Noack, Emilia Lacy, and Bill Biernacki will meet to discuss selection of MG of the Year and MG Behind the Scenes.

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 15, 2008, 9:00 -11:30 a.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam McElroy
Secretary