CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Emilia Lacy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made by Sally Reill, seconded by Mark Dixon, and approved unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Anne Irving stated that balances almost identical to last meeting report. We had a small amount of interest income. Revenue is exceeding expenses for this year. Our CD is maturing on September 13, and we need to renew it. Current rate is 3.35%.

A motion to authorize Anne to renew CD at best available interest rate, not to exceed an eight month period, was made by David Moffitt, seconded by Sally Reill, and passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Emilia Lacy noted that we had received a thank you note from Ruth Gilbert for Master Gardener award for best petunias at the Lincoln County Fair.

She also announced that Sam has calendar conflict on the third Tuesday of month (regularly scheduled Board meeting dates) beginning in September. He is joining the Lincoln Leadership Council. Following discussion, the Board meeting schedule was changed to second Tuesday from September to December.

Mini-College/OMGA

Michael Noack reported on Mini-College. Nine Lincoln County people attended. Liz Olsen received the Carlson Grant and the 2008 Lincoln County Master Gardener of the Year. She presented and accepted the Marje Luce Search for Excellence award on behalf of Lincoln County Community Gardens and LCMGA.
The silent auction brought in $6700+. Michael thanked all those who donated items to the auction. Next year’s Mini College will be held August 5-7, 2009 at OSU.

Michael clarified Ray McNeilan scholarship fund and the OMGA Endowment fund. Ray McNeilan fund is $1000 which is awarded to an OSU Horticulture Student. The OMGA Endowment fund (over $100,000 long-term endowment) is to provide funding to Oregon’s MG programs. Emilia Lacy said we will need to discuss our donations in more detail in the future now that we have clarification on these two funds.

NEWSLETTER

Mark Dixon reported on the newsletter. A very full issue is coming up, with editing and production on track. Michael Noack and Sally Reill will review articles. Pam McElroy will do an article on the bulb sale for newsletter.

Sam proposed that January 1 we move newsletter completely to Internet; those people who need a hard copy will need to pay the actual costs. Sally Noack said there are some complimentary newsletters are sent out, but actual hard copy requests are not that numerous. Mark Dixon requested that we do a parallel transition with both hard copy and online versions for a couple of months. Anne Irving said copying costs for newsletter each month are not real solid. Invoicing to us from OSU average cost is for 2000-3000 copies. We will come up with more specific figures so we can decide what a reasonable cost would be for those who request a hard copy.

FARMERS MARKET

David Lavrinets submitted a written report. There is a mobile help desk at the Lincoln City Farmers Market every Sunday; at Yachats every other Sunday, in addition to the every other Saturday Newport presence. Mark Dixon said he is working with several other MGs to clarify materials that should be included in mobile help desk kits.

Rick & Janet Anderson have purchased a canopy, several chairs, etc. for the Lincoln City market. Claudette Schroeder said the Andersons are not requesting reimbursement for this purchase, but could request “in kind contribution” acknowledgement. Anne Irving indicated it would be good to reflect this in budget. Anne said we should get a receipt, she would write check and they could donate it back to the foundation.

LIBRARY

Claudette Schroeder reported on a review of reference library materials at the three locations for Farmers Markets. She reviewed proposed books for each location, and the probable costs for each. Emilia Lacy requested that this item be moved to next month’s agenda.
Michael Noack said he and Diane Pinto had inventoried library, and there is some indication that books are being “checked out” from the library. We will need a newsletter item regarding not removing books from the office library. Betty Bahn said that she thinks the books are being taken to the Farmers Markets and then returned.

OSU ATTIC STORAGE

David Moffitt, Anne Irving & Sally Reill cleaned up and inventoried the materials that were brought from the Fairgrounds. The lock combination is the same as at the Fairgrounds. Most of the materials removed from the Fairgrounds are supplies for banquets, meetings, etc. He is putting together an inventory list. David further noted that he and Sam are discussing some of the safety issues with the new storage location.

FUTURES MEETING and BBQ

Mark Dixon reported “We came, we ate, and we met for Futures discussion.” This was an excellent meeting, with a “win-win” outcome.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Emilia said she wanted to appoint a nominating committee for the 2009 board. She distributed job descriptions for all Board positions. She reviewed Board member position job descriptions. Everyone could be president with good support from Board members.

Nomination Committee will bring together a committee to propose nominations for all board positions for the calendar year 2009. Sally Noack said we need to know who will remain on the board. Pam McElroy will continue as secretary. Anne Irving will continue as Treasurer for another year, Mark Dixon would be second Vice-President but does not want to step into president. The positions of President, First Vice-President, and Historian are open. Sally Reill is considering serving as Librarian. Claudette Schroeder will remain as Help Desk Coordinator. Janet Anderson and Betty Sparks will coordinate the Lincoln City and Yachats Farmers Market, and we will need a coordinator for the Newport Farmers Market.

Bill Biernacki and Liz Olsen will co-chair the nominations Committee. Michael Noack said four people on the current board are returning. David Moffitt asked how we could nominate someone to be president of the board if they have not served on the board before they take it on. Anne Irving said anyone who has other experience such as working on other volunteer boards, rather than just those who have already been on the Master Gardener Board, could bring that background. Sam Angima said we should look at what we do if no one wants to be president? We might have a configuration of two co-presidents, or move many things to the Vice-President positions. Sally Noack reminded all that we do not take any nominations from the floor. Anne reviewed president responsibilities from the By-Laws. Sally Reill noted that the president’s job over the past two years has doubled or tripled in complexity and time requirements. We may need to scale back our ambitions for this position. Sally Noack said we need to get people who
want to do the job. David Moffitt indicated the decisions from the Futures meeting are going to impact our search for a president. We have become very overextended. Nominations will be announced in the October newsletter and at the Apple Squeeze, the election will be held in November, and the new Board takes over on January 1, 2009. Anne Irving noted that we are a volunteer organization and board, and people are going to bring their individual talents and deficits to the position. We need to recognize that in terms of finding the “perfect” candidate for positions.

FALL BULB SALE

Pam McElroy reported that preparations are well underway for the October 4th Bulb Sale. We will meet at Betty Bahn’s house for a work party to repackage and price the bulbs on September 23rd. Publicity for the bulb sale is being finalized.

2008 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY AND LETTERHEAD

Sally Noack said the information is coming along, but not as quickly as expected hoped. The updated directory may not come out until next year.

FUTURES METING

Sam Angima stated there was a very good turnout for the Futures meeting. There were many good responses for both areas of interest (2009 Class and Board projects). We need to review what we can actually do and when. Sam said he felt some of these items were too broad in scope, but there were some very good suggestions. He reiterated the need for a Central Garden.

Student Projects

By November, we need to have everything decided for class. 2009 class apprentices will probably need to do their garden hours in community gardens again, and we don’t expect to have a central garden in place for next year. The Board will need to decide what is feasible, what is going to work, what is not going to draw away from commitment to other programs. We need to look at other fund raising possibilities as well. Perhaps we need to change next year’s classes to reflect a much more coastal perspective. Sally Noack said that one student commented said we should require more payback hours because it was too easy to reach the required hours. Anne thanked Sam for his openness to the ideas from everybody. Sam said we can do a Futures type meeting every two years and review progress and fine tune lists, etc. There are some very large jobs on the list. Mark asked how we draw in people who wanted specific tasks accomplished and have them work on it. A large challenge for next board will be how we get the next year’s students immediately involved. Next year we might also substitute some new items for classes. Betty Bahn said it would be very helpful to the established Master Gardener group to have some different classes, focus on different areas of interest. Sally Noack added that another chapter has established an online FAQ for most asked questions.
Biernacki said he and Liz Olsen talked to some instructors at Mini-College and have some commitments for speakers for next year’s classes.

**LCMGA Projects**

Sally Reill suggested that quarterly events such as propagation workshops could be opened to the public on a fee basis. Anne Irving added that we need to look at timelines for propagation workshops; some should be done in the fall. Mark Dixon noted that there is some overlap on the two lists, and asked how we will integrate these.

Sam said he sees that some of these topics will naturally meld together as the apprentices become veterans (like partnerships with the schools). Bill Biernacki said students could choose from these specific areas for their volunteer hours. Anne Irving said it is good to have these apprentice projects determined, so specific volunteer opportunities will be available. Sally Reill asked if we had the venue scheduled for the plant sale next year. Bob Deming asked if we have considered using the Fairground facility, even if we must pay a rental fee. Bob will inquire at the Fairground office. Inquiries will also be made at the Church of the Nazarene, the Armory building, or local schools. Sam also said upon approval of the board we may want to not participate in the Home & Garden show in 2009. The most probable date for the Plant Sale would be May 14-15-16, 2009. If a venue is not readily available that weekend, we could also consider the May 30th weekend. Calls will be made to all potential venues for plant sale, and information reported back at the next meeting.

**DONATION OF POSSIBLE COMMUNITY GARDEN SITE**

Sam said there is the possibility of donation to Master Gardeners of a central garden site in Yachats. They are offering this site, but we would need to connect water and perhaps pay back taxes, Verna Collett is appealing to the city for a decision to eliminate back taxes for this property. Betty Bahn said she had some concerns about this particular site for the MG program. This property is very wet, is in a wind tunnel, is not fenced, and she is not sure the neighborhood would approve. There is a spot on Second Street that may be available. There are two lots, it is fenced, has southern exposure, water on site, etc. The owner is willing to let us use this lot for community garden purposes. Betty suggested that we wait until the Yachats community meeting has been held and we are sure people are interested in a community garden site before we make any decision. Sam will talk to Yachats people to see if there is enough interest for us to look at this possibility.

Emilia said Claudette had some suggestions regarding our participation at the Garden Expo next June rather than the Home and Garden Show.

**ADJOURNMENT**
The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 9, at 9:00 a.m.,

Respectfully submitted,
Pam McElroy