

CGMGA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes      September 12, 2005

Members present: Dede Garcia, Laurie Fadness, Lana Tepfer, Rita Saling, Shirley Chrisman, Coleen Garrabrant, Etta Myers, Cherie Austin, Marlene Long  
Others attending: Kathy Emmons, Elizabeth Daniel, Lynn Long

Laurie called the meeting to order. The date for the November meeting was set for Monday, the 21<sup>st</sup> in Hood River at 9:30. The October meeting was previously set for October 10<sup>th</sup> in The Dalles. The minutes of the August meeting were read and approved. They will now be posted on the MG web sites.

Lee gave the treasurer's report with an explanation of the monies spent. The checking account balance as of 9/8/05 is \$323.45 and the money market account balance is \$7,420.49. According to the OMGA a balance of \$2500 is to be maintained in a reserve fund. Lee presented a new budget proposal which will be presented at the September Association meeting. A request was made to have separate line items, one for each of the counties' plant clinics. Dede made a motion and Cheri seconded it to approve the proposed budget.

Sally Ann requested \$34.95 for frames for the community awards for Wasco County. Elizabeth also requested an equal amount of money for the Hood River community awards. Lana moved and Coleen seconded a motion to honor these requests. The money will be taken from the supplies budget.

If the budget is approved by the association, Cheri requested that approximately \$400 of the funds designated for soil testing be available prior to January 1. She would like to purchase supplies and begin training for that project as soon as possible.

It was also mentioned that new bins might need to be purchased for the off-site plant clinics. It was recommended that smaller bins with wheels be chosen for ease of use.

Lee presented a recommendation for a quarterly random audit of the finances by the President and President-elect. Lee offered to write up a procedure for this process. A proposal will be made to change the by-laws to accommodate this recommendation.

It was noted that it is possible to access the monthly newsletter by going to either county's web-site if not on one or the other. At present only 10 members are receiving the newsletter by e-mail. Judy will be asked to come to the next meeting to explain her procedure for distributing the newsletter, and discuss what is easiest and most effective.

Etta reported on the graduation. The arrangements with the Christian Church are set, the refreshments and decorations are taken care of. There is still work being done on the booklet. The committee will be meeting with Lynn and Elizabeth concerning presentations. It was also noted that directions to the church need to be published in the invitations and in the newsletter.

Etta also reported on the 2006 garden tour. There are potentially 7 gardens available for the tour. A meeting will be held next week to determine which or if all of the gardens will be used. The committee consists of Etta Myers, Kathy Emmons, Bonnie LeBreton-Smith, Glenda Ryan and Charlotte Link.

Lynn thanked Lee and Elizabeth for setting up a MG booth at the Wasco Co. fair. The booth received a reserve champion ribbon. Lynn also reported that there would be a more complete soil-testing program offered next year. Cheri is heading up this program and wants three additional people who are very committed to the project to do the set up and training. The tests will take about 2 hours to do and will include pH, N,P,K analysis, and texture and organic matter evaluation. There will also be handouts and explanations available to the clients. There will be a \$15.00 charge for this service, which will be credited to the soil testing line item to defer the costs.

Lynn also will be having an advisory meeting to gain input on topics for the class training next year.

Elizabeth reported that the plant clinics are still very busy. There may be changes made next year in the times of the clinic with an additional day added. Rita and Pat Morrison set up and received awards for their MG display at the Skamania Co. fair.

Elizabeth also reported that Scott would be providing composting workshops for MG's on the 3 remaining Tuesdays in September at the Learning Garden. On Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> there will be a composting class open to the public conducted by Chery Sullivan. It will be from 9:00 to noon.

Coleen reported that the Care Center garden was going well. Compost had been applied and Pat Morrison had redone the benches.

The garden shed for the Learning Garden is 95% complete. It just needs a door and some kind of flooring put in.

Kathy gave a report on the success of the after school/summer garden at Colonel Wright School.

The meeting was adjourned.