



## Washington County Master Gardener™ Association

### Board Meeting

**January 14, 2022**

**Attendees:** Karen Graham, Lisa Graff, Hope Preston, Mary Hewitt, Terry Wagner, Harriet Ottaviano, Leslie Ray, Pat Simmons, Susan Albright, Nadine Johnson, Sue Ryburn

**Guest(s):** JEDI: Jack Schorr, Shari Franey; Marcia McIntyre

**Absent:** JEDI Member, Larina Hoffbeck

**Meeting called to order:** by Karen Graham, January 14, 2022 at 9am. Virtual Meeting

TOPIC: PRESENTER(S)	DISCUSSION	ACTION/DECISION
Lisa Graff- <i>Strategic Plan</i>	<p>The Strategic Plan discussion led to prioritizing these goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Educate Master Gardeners to respond more effectively and more comfortably to inquiries from the public.</li><li>2) Identify what the public wants/needs from MG's and increase what MG's have to offer.</li><li>3) Fundraising</li></ol> <p>There was discussion as how to incorporate diversity, equity, and inclusion within these three goals.</p>	<p>To further each goal, a committee will form for follow up and development. Lisa asked each board member to contact her and to choose one of the goals. Each board member is asked to forward 2 names of potential committee members to Lisa. Lisa will create a 1- hour meeting for each goal in February and invite board members who opted in and other WCMGA members that were recommended. These meetings with further develop and refine the initial draft that was presented in the Jan board meeting.</p>

TOPIC: PRESENTER(S)	DISCUSSION	ACTION/DECISION
<p>Hope Preston, and JEDI members. <i>Update on diversity activities and land acknowledgement statements.</i></p>	<p>JEDI, statewide OSU Extension committee will make a presentation in April, after one year of work. Questions asked and discussed are: How do we change our current materials to match the needs and awareness of all who constitute our public? How do we enhance our cultural awareness to comprise how gardening is viewed by all groups in the public that we serve? Jack suggests detailed, informed planning for interactions with those belonging to indigenous groups who would be consultants in creating meaningful land acknowledgment statements and</p>	<p>Hope will send a video link to a presentation that has information regarding effective consulting with indigenous groups about the topics we discussed.</p>
	<p>curriculum to meet the needs of all in the public served by WCMGA.</p>	
<p>Terry Wagner <i>MG's of Note</i></p>	<p>Terry is open to receive names of those to honor as MG of Note for February. Leslie Ray's work of translating messages into Spanish is recognized. Member survey and effective methods of communicating with those who participated in the survey was discussed.</p>	<p>Harriet nominated Janet, who updates and designs the Facebook page: WCMGA Members only.</p>
<p>Karen Graham &amp; Harriet Ottaviano <i>Standing Rules</i></p>	<p>Several points were discussed and resolved. The means to maintaining some continuity of board membership is being reviewed. How much continuity in membership is desired? How will this be expressed in standing rules?</p>	<p>Virtual chapter and board meetings are considered official meetings. Elections may be held virtually in November, each year. Karen will rewrite Standing Rules to address continuity and present at the February board meeting.</p>
<p>Harriet Ottaviano <i>Publicity Updates</i></p>	<p>The WCGMA logo is updated and being integrated into the website.</p>	
<p>Leslie Ray <i>Templates and consistency of presentation</i></p>	<p>The updated logo is being placed on all templates used for communications and publicity, including the public Facebook page and the WCMGA members only Facebook page. The banner color is now green, formerly it has been orange</p>	
<p>Susan Albright</p>	<p>Susan asked if there were questions regarding the Program Director Report,</p>	<p>Document 1 in Minutes</p>

TOPIC: PRESENTER(S)	DISCUSSION	ACTION/DECISION
<i>Program Director Update</i>	which she had submitted for review, prior to the meeting. There were no questions at this time.	Addendum: <i>Program Director Report</i>
Karen Graham <i>School Gardens</i>	There was discussion of the role of MG's in school gardens, such as the garden at Lincoln Elementary in downtown Hillsboro. This garden needs a new MG consultant. The MG role is defined as that of an educator. The MG may work in the garden as a community volunteer. However, that time is not recognized as MG volunteer hours. Those MG's working with youth are to complete OSU Extension training. Marcia McIntyre coordinates this training.	
Karen Graham <i>Membership</i>	Currently we have 117 members including the 2020 interns. Karen is following up with 20 members regarding renewals for 2022. The directory is nearing completion.	
Karen Graham <i>State of the Chapter</i>	This message will be reported in the Chapter Chat and will be on file in OneDrive. It will include statistics for the "In the Garden" series, Facebook contacts and, partner organizations.	Sue Ryburn will send Karen Graham metrics for <i>In the Garden</i> and other Education Garden activities. Metrics will also be sent regarding WCMGA grants. Sue will ask Marilyn Berti to send Karen information about Learning Garden activities.
<u>Announcements</u> Pat Simmons <i>Plant Propagation Project</i>	There are 1,000 plants of inventory for sales during 2022. More will be needed for next year (2023).	
	Washington County Small Woodlands is asking MG's to volunteer at their sale, answering questions about native plants. This event may provide an opportunity to sell some of the WCMGA books and tools.	
Marcia McIntyre	2022 MG Training updates- letters are going out today to the applicants. One hundred thirty-five applicants were accepted from a total of 300. Changes in MG training have been made to follow equity, inclusion, and diversity guidelines. In Washington County, there are 37 trainees.	

Meeting adjourned: 11:30 am

Next Board Meeting: Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Virtual meeting: 9 am to 11:30 am.  
Next Chapter Program & Meeting: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 7 pm Webinar.

**Respectfully submitted by: Mary Hewitt, January 29, 2022**

**Approved by: Karen Graham, February 6, 2022**



## Washington County Master Gardener™ Association

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### WCMGA Board Meeting January 14, 2022 Minutes

#### DOCUMENT 1

**WCMGA Program Director Report  
January 14, 2022 - WCMGA Board of Directors Meeting  
Submitted by: Susan Albright**

#### **Our Gardens**

Since the temporary workday halt that started after Thanksgiving, MG Volunteers have been checking on the gardens once a week. Other than a split pipe in the PCC Rock Creek greenhouse that we utilize, no major incidents have occurred. Thanks to Helen Dorbolo for her quick action to get the water stopped!

Regular garden workdays will resume at both of our gardens the first week in February:

- Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek – Wednesdays, 9am-noon
- Learning Garden at Jenkins Estate – Thursdays, 10am-1pm

#### **The Learning Group**

In a December 27, 2021, email to Karen Graham (President) and Susan Albright (Program Director), Sandy Japely announced the “sunsetting” of the Learning Group. The group’s last session was yesterday, January 13, 2022.

In her message, Sandy explained that “the program was designed specifically to build the skills of relatively new MGs and create a ‘sharing space’ for veteran MGs.” For the past two years, Sandy, along with a dedicated team of content developers – Annie Raich, Fran Beebe, and Shirley Wolcott – have researched, created, and taught 18 different programs on a variety of topics, either live or via Zoom. Reviews from participants have been overwhelmingly positive, so why stop?

In her message, Sandy cited two key reasons for ending the program:

1. No new interns coming into the pipeline from which to “grow” participation
2. Starting to repeat topics for discussion/analysis which will cause the current audience to dwindle as most of that group has already engaged in a session related to those topics.

Fortunately, the research-based course materials (both the student prep materials and the answer sheets) are currently being uploaded onto a WCMGA OneDrive account. In addition, a notebook of “answer sheet” materials has been made available for use in the WC OSU phone clinic office. Jenifer Halter (OSU WC Extension) has recorded many of the sessions which will be made available.

It is the hope of the Learning Group developers that these materials “will be used in the future by MG interns and veterans alike.” Possibilities include the Speaker’s Bureau utilizing parts of the materials, small groups of MGs meeting to use the materials in a classroom setting or using the materials as a foundation for developing hands-on workshops for the 2022 MG Interns.

Our organization owes a huge thanks to the Learning Group developers for the amazing work they have done over the past two years. Their work truly embodies both the educational outreach mission and the spirit of being a Master Gardener volunteer.

### **Monthly Speakers Committee**

The 2022 Speakers are confirmed. The committee members are closing in on gathering that last bits of speaker information that is needed for publicity purposes (a process which is a lesson in patience and diplomacy). Thanks to all the members of the WCMGA Board and to our chapter members who provided the committee with suggestions of speakers and topics for this year.

We are looking ahead to 2023 and how we might improve our process, in particular the communication between the committee and the people who work on publicity for our events. Earlier this week, I met with Harriet Ottaviano (Publicity Director) to gather information about publicity deadlines and what specific information she needs about each speaker for

publicity purposes. From the information I gathered at our meeting, I have drafted a timeline, a sample speaker request email message, and a Speaker Information form. Speaker Committee members Judy Froemke and Jackie Hauser will meet with me via Zoom the first week in February to edit and finalize the process. Formal invitations will be sent to speakers starting September 1.

In the meantime will be actively soliciting 2023 speaker and topic suggestions from the WCMGA Board and other chapter members through announcements in the Feb-Aug issues of Chapter Chat and at Chapter meetings.

### **In the Garden Series (IGS)**

The 2022 Schedule of IGS sessions are now posted on the WCMGA website (thank you Helen Dorbolo).

- Between our two gardens, we have 13 sessions in total.
- All sessions require advance online registration due to capacity limits. We are testing out the use of an online google form for registration.
- The first two IGS sessions will be held at PCC Rock Creek:
  - Saturday, Feb 12<sup>th</sup> - Mason Bees 101, Ron Spendal presenting
  - Saturday, Feb 26<sup>th</sup> - Raising Mason Bees, Ron Spendal presenting

### **2022 MG Intern Training Workshops**

WCMGA will be creating and teaching seven outdoor, hands-on training workshops for the 2022 MG Interns. These Saturday workshops are for MG Interns only. Marcia McIntyre will oversee publicity and registration. Workshops will be held in our gardens. The first WCMGA sponsored workshop is at the Education Garden at PCC Rock Creek on Saturday, April 23 – Topic: Blueberries.

We are excited about this new opportunity to connect with the interns in our two gardens while expanding our own education outreach skills. Some of the workshop topics relate to the topics that were explored by the Learning Group. We are planning to make further use of their research-based lesson materials when planning lessons.

### **Children/Family Events**

We are in the process of forming a workgroup to expand WCMGA's educational outreach offerings for children and families. We are first reaching out to those chapter members who indicated an interest in children's activities in the survey from last fall. Our hope is also the development of leadership in this area. COVID procedures allowing, the following children/family events are planned for 2022:

- Welcome Back Mason Bees at the Education Garden - May 14
- Bees in Your Garden -In the Garden Series at the Education Garden – June 25
- Story Time in the Garden – Education Garden July 16
- WCMGA Gardens Open Houses (Education Garden - July 23 & Learning Garden – August 13)

