



Washington County Master Gardener™ Association

Board Meeting September 9th 2022, 9 am Minutes

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

Meeting called to order: by Karen Graham, President, at 9 am, Washington County OSU Extension Office,

| TOPIC: PRESENTER(s) | DISCUSSION | ACTION/DECISION |
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| Terry Wagner <i>Chapter Relations</i> | Master Gardener’s of Note nominations: Elizabeth Price and Lisa Hansen, for preparing the application of the Education Garden as a Conifer Reference Garden, American Society of Conifers, by Sue Ryburn. | Sue Ryburn will submit the nomination to Chapter Chat and send written thank you notes to nominees. |
| | Intern Soiree: September 24, 5-7pm at Learning Garden at Jenkins Estate | |
| | Terry is receiving RSVP’s. Jack Shorr will read the land acknowledgement and summarize the chapter’s developing philosophy and practices regarding Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. | |
| | MG’s are asked to provide children’s activities at the Washington County OSU Extension, Open House at the Washington County Fairgrounds on October 1st, 10 am to 2 pm. | Susan Albright will pull together spider activities and reach out to volunteers for staffing. |
| Karen Graham <i>President</i> | Suzanne Bonamici, U.S. Representative of Congress, recently visited the WCMGA Education Garden at the PCC Rock Creek Campus along with other local and state leaders regarding OSU Extension activities and programs. Karen presented Congresswoman Bonamici with literature describing Washington County Master Gardener activities and programs. There was discussion of initial activities to support an effort to form a service district for Washington County Extension. | |
| Hope Preston <i>Treasurer</i> | Hope presented the board with copies of the 2023 budget. There may be a contingency depending on the outcome of the Learning Garden Memorandum of Understanding with Tualatin Hills Parks and Recreation Department regarding use of the greenhouse. Another possible contingency: | |

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| | Karen suggested that WCMGA may provide seed money for “Friends of Extension” in support of the campaign promoting the Service District formation. | |
| | Hope gave a report on the activities of the WCMGA DEI committee. Refer to Document 1 | Hope will explore future DEI training for interns and perennial MG’s in 2023 with Marcia McIntyre |
| Harriett Ottaviano <i>Publicity</i> | Chapter meetings will continue as virtual, depending on the needs of the speaker and the weather. | Karen Graham will find out from the technology team if hybrid meetings are feasible. |
| Pat Simmons <i>Communications</i> | Square Account- An individual needs to be involved as an account owner, using their private credit reports for the application. It also involves a process in signing in for security purposes. | Lisa Graf may consult with Pat, Nadine Johnson, and Terry Wagner, on the process of setting this up. |
| Susan Albright Sue Ryburn | Reported on progress/status of Strategic Plan Objective #1: EDUCATE MASTER GARDENERS AND THE DIVERSE PUBLIC ON SUSTAINABLE GARDENING TOPICS THAT ARE NEEDED, WANTED, AND WELL-ATTENDED. 1. Identify educational wants, needs and trends: | Karen Graham will conduct and compile a Member survey |
| | Trends- Marcia McIntyre may have access to data. Sue Ryburn and Susan Albright are reviewing 2018 and 2019 records for IGS classes and monthly Chapter meetings | Susan Albright will gather data to identify trends and interests. |
| | 2. Expand educational offerings: | Susan Albright continues to create educational outreach kits. Leslie Ray may expand Spanish language translation efforts to include the kits. Sue Ryburn continues to research materials created by other organizations. The PCC Rock Creek Farm is another community partner. Harriet Ottaviano will coordinate calendars of |

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| | | activities with community partners such as those published or available in Chapter Chat, Chapter Meetings, and WCMGA Members only Facebook |
| | 3 Train and develop more Master Gardener presenters: | 10-minute mini sessions and Learning Group Programs may be formatted to use for <i>In The Garden Series</i> , classes. |
| | | |
| Karen Graham Lisa Graf | Board positions open 12/2022: President | Nominees; Hope Preston |
| | Vice President | Nominee needed |
| | Treasurer | Nominee needed |
| | Director Position #1 Business Manager | Dan McDonald |
| | Director Position #2 Program Director Director Position #4 Fundraising | Marilyn Berti Nominee Needed |
| Leslie Ray <i>OMGA updates</i> | The OMGA will lobby the Oregon State Legislature regarding the budget for OSU Extension. | Leslie will ask WCMGA members to write letters to legislators to support OSU Extension budget. |
| Susan Albright <i>Program Director</i> | Program Director Report is found in Document 2 | Susan created a printable PDF to use for Monthly Chapter Meeting Speakers that will collect needed information. |

Meeting adjourned: 11:30 am

Next Board Meeting October 14, 2022

Next Chapter Program & Meeting October 4th, 7 pm Chapter Meeting: *From Seed to Shining Seed*, Tom Kaye, OSU

Respectfully submitted by: Mary Hewitt, Recording Secretary

Approved by: WCMGA Chapter President (date)



Washington County Master Gardener™ Association

Board Meeting September 9, 2022 Minutes/ Supplemental Documents

DOCUMENT 1

Efforts made towards DEI objectives: submitted by Hope Preston for the WCMGA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.

Some of these efforts included cooperation with community partners as noted

2021 – Four members of WCMGA participated in the first cohort of the statewide Master Gardener DEI taskforce (Jack Shorr, Shari Franey, Eric Butler, Larina Hoffbeck)

2021 – More hands-on activities were added at the Learning Garden for younger children such as small watering cans visiting children can use to water specific plants, and a pilot Children’s Mini Garden where they can plant seeds in one of sixteen 10”x10” squares and return to water and care for their plants before harvesting them later in the year. Older siblings can select a package of seeds to take home and plant.

2021 – Both demonstration gardens have feedback forms to gather demographic information and suggestions from visitors.
2022 - Elementos Esenciales de Jardineria added to WCMGA website. This resource consists of 10 articles on gardening translated into Spanish. (Thanks to a Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District grant, we were able to develop 10 basic gardening information sheets and have them translated into Spanish. With advice from OSU Extension Nutrition, Food Hero, and Adelante Mujeres, we identified 10 topics and formatted them for accessibility. Before publication, WCMGA master gardeners reviewed the information for accuracy. Many thanks to the team that made this possible: Susan Albright, **Deborah Dineen**, Karen Graham, Judy Hale, Nadine Johnson, Connie Kirby, **Trisha McPherrren**, **Tamara Newton-Baker**, Kathy Nokes, Hope Preston, and **Leslie Ray**. The names in BOLD were on the development team and the others were reviewers for the content.)

March 2022 – A Land Acknowledgement was adopted by WCMGA and posted at both demonstration gardens. (LA was drafted by Hope Preston, Jack Shorr, Shari Franey, and Larina Hoffbeck with advice from 5 Oaks Museum.)

April 2022 – Mini-session at Education Garden: “Camas Bulbs and Their Importance to Indigenous People” (Jack Shorr)

2022 – Three members of WCMGA participated in the second cohort of the statewide Master Gardener DEI taskforce (Jack Shorr, Shari Franey, Larina Hoffbeck)

2022 – Volunteers at the Learning Garden increased the heights of some of their beds to reduce the need to bend and kneel while gardening. (Effort led by Dan McDonald.) A demo of the Native American “Three Sisters” garden was added and signage is in the works to explain the long Native American history of growing the three plants together. Thai basil and Vietnamese coriander were added to the garden based on the input of several community volunteers who came from these countries and regularly use the herbs. In the herb spiral the Central American herb Epazote is being trialed.

May 2022 –Grow1/Give1 event at the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry in Hillsboro. Project purpose is to provide vegetable and herb starts to limited-income residents of Washington County. The primary goal of this first year was to test the feasibility of such a project and identify best methods for achieving the goals. We met our primary goal and were able to distribute starts of tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchini, jalapeños, and various packets of vegetable seeds to limited-income residents in Washington County along with an instruction sheet in both Spanish and English. Because many of the recipients live in situations without yards for planting, we included grow bags filled with potting medium and fertilizer for the plants unless the recipients indicated that they had yard space for planting. Grow1/Give1 Project Team: Stephanie Clift, Lori Davidson, Jennifer Garred, Nancy Howarth, Dan Mc Donald, and Karen Graham/Leslie Ray (co-leads). (A non-MG volunteer fluent in Spanish was also present at the event. Also worked with staff at Food Hero and the Nutrition Education and Outreach Programs. Some materials donated by Root Pouch and Clean Water Services.)

June 2022 – Adaptive gardening tools were included in the Weed Management Workshop training for interns, and links to free tool libraries in Washington, Multnomah, and Clackamas Counties included on handouts. (Ergonomic handles, D-handles that can be attached to standard tools, grip tape, extendable handles, Grandpa’s Weeder, hand tool with pistol grip and arm cuff, kneeler with handrails, pipe insulation as grip cushion. A weed wrench was borrowed from TSWCD.)

June 2022 – The Education Garden and the Learning Garden purchased some ergonomic hand tools as well as a kneeler with handrails for use by volunteers and demonstrations of adaptive gardening.

June 2022 – WCMGA formed DEI Committee (Original members: Hope Preston, Shari Franey, Jack Shorr, Larina Hoffbeck)

DOCUMENT 2

Program Director Report

Learning Garden Updates:

1. Tamara, Pat, and Marilyn Berti met at the LG with THPRD folks. MOU is moving along. Greenhouse use looks like a go.
2. LG is holding their annual Potluck for LG work party volunteers on Saturday, Sept 17.

3. LG volunteers will be meeting soon to work on dividing up the lead roles at the garden to “spread out the workload” that is involved in running the garden.

Program Director News:

1. Marilyn Berti has agreed to run for the Program Director position for the 2023-2025. She and Susan will work together on rewriting the job description, going over current OneDrive files, etc.

2. Education Outreach Committee:

Members: Susan Albright, Sue Ryburn, Hope Preston & Larina Hoffbeck. Want to add 1-2 members from the LG. Marilyn Berti will attend first meeting but does not want to be a regular member. First meeting will be during week of Oct 17-21.

3. Monthly Speaker Committee - Met on Sept 6. Choose initial 10 speakers. Already have two ‘Yes’ responses. Have a Timeline to get the final schedule of speakers set by Nov. 15.