



Washington County Master Gardener™ Association

Minutes of Board Meeting / August 8th, 2025 at 9 am, Extension Office

Attendance: Lisa Barnhart, Stephanie Engle, Deb Hansen, Mary Hewitt, Larina Hoffbeck, Connie Kirby, Harriet Ottaviano, Hope Preston, Tera Ramsey, and Terry Wagner.

Absent: Steve Kister

Hope Preston, President, called the meeting to order at 9 am.

BOARD REPORTS

Chapter Relations/ Terry Wagner

Terry presented the following nominations for September recognitions:

- Harriet Ottaviano for Special Acts/Making a Difference
- Michael Donoghue and Mary Hewitt- Master Gardener of Note
- Terry will write the nominations.

Fall Social- September 13th at Ed Garden, 1-3 pm. Terry is planning refreshments, and door prizes. Larina will set up a table with information about the “Garden Future” OSU program.

Treasurer/ Connie Kirby

Budget requests from Board members and program leads are in and tabulated. The Budget committee is meeting directly after the Board meeting and again in late August to complete the draft budget for Board review at their September meeting.

Programs/ Larina Hoffbeck

Larina is preparing a table exhibit for the member’s Social.

The Monthly Speakers’ Committee will meet on August 27th. Speakers have been recommended.

Communications/Steve Kister

Hope reported for Steve that information for September, Chapter Chat is needed Friday, August 15th.

Fundraising/ Lisa Barnhart

There is a surplus of funds with respect to the 2025 budget, from the *GardenFest* plant sale, and from corporate and private donations. Bottle drop earnings are also exceeding budget.

- Lisa is hosting this month's "Gathering Gardeners" event and suggests that "Gathering Gardener" events can be added to the list of "Upcoming" items on the list of Board Agenda.

Publicity/Harriet Ottaviano

Publicity has been submitted for the late August and early September events. Harriet is also preparing information for the late September and early October activities.

Business/Stephanie Engle

Stephanie is working with the 2026 budget committee.

Vice President/Tera Ramsey

- Strategic Plan- A meeting for interested board members to address this, will be planned for mid- September at Lisa Graf's home.
- Discussion of Nominations- for 2026 board openings :

Chapter Relations
Secretary
Publicity
Communications

At the September Chapter meeting, Hope will ask for volunteers for open board positions. Tera will also make inquiries.

OMGA/Deb Hansen

- There were 210 registrants for the *Joy of Gardening* conference.
- *Garden Future*- The role of OMGA in sharing this information will be discussed further.
- Deb provided the following link regarding *Garden Future*.

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/garden-future>

Calling all Master Gardener volunteers seeking a meaningful way to engage with your local community on creating resilient gardens in a changing climate. The statewide initiative "Garden Future" is designed for you to use, and for you to customize for your community and needs. We have new resources for you. Here's what you can do:

- Watch the [new training video](#): Learn about the "why" we are doing this, the "how" of engaging with others on the topic, and learn about what we're already learning from gardeners across the state when it comes to climate change and what they need and see in their own gardens. We share some great ideas of what Master Gardener volunteers are already doing—they're creative and ideas you could use too.

- Access and download the [volunteer guidebook](#): 25 pages of project overview, kit materials and instructions, and resources to activate your fellow Master Gardeners.
- Access [all of the resources available](#) to volunteers working on Garden Future... Including regional lists of low water plants, table signs, Canva templates, a Garden Future branded powerpoint template and more.
- Sign up for our [special insiders email list](#), just for Master Gardeners working on Garden Future: We're connecting you with what others are doing, what we're learning, and current climate change research and information.

Have an idea or want to collaborate? Reach out to brooke.edmunds@oregonstate.edu and leann.locher@oregonstate.edu to get connected.

Meeting adjourned at 10 am by Hope Preston, President

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mary Hewitt, Recording Secretary, August 12, 2025

Approved by Hope Preston