



Washington County Master Gardener™ Association

Minutes of September 12, 2025 Board Minutes / Extension Office at 9 am

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

Absent: Connie Kirby

Hope Preston, President opened the meeting at 9am.

BOARD REPORTS

Chapter Relations/Terry Wagner

MG of Note October- Marilyn Berti was nominated for her leadership in Grow1Give1. Leslie Ray wrote the nomination.

Treasurer/Connie Kirby

Lisa gave the Treasurer's report for Connie. Board members have received the 2026 proposed budget.

The budget committee decided to remove Master Gardener aprons as a line item. OSU supplies new aprons for OSU organized tabling events.

Discussion followed regarding the procurement of wardrobe items specific to WCMGA to wear at WCMGA sponsored events. Further discussion to be organized.

Programs/Larina Hoffbeck

The Monthly Speakers Committee has scheduled 7 of the 10 speakers needed for the 2026 Chapter meetings.

The Ed and Learning Garden leads are setting up the *In The Garden* classes for next year.

Communications/Steve Kister

After the summer break, the *Chapter Chat* is back on the monthly schedule.

Fundraising/Lisa Barnhart

. We are on track for at least a \$10K increase in net earnings for GardenFest 2025. Regarding Fundraising Budget 2026, we are contemplating creating new WCMGA-logo apparel and will discuss in our steering committee. The brown MG aprons are not available for us to purchase. Colorful hats, aprons, t-shirts are being considered.

Publicity/ Harriet Ottaviano

October Publicity for October is released. Other releases for fall are in progress. Harriet has reviewed the current job description of publicity director and suggests an update to the guidelines for creating and submitting publicity.

Harriet will send copy of current publicity guidelines to Hope

Business/ Stephanie Engle

Stephanie suggested that any new records retention requirements be included in Board position descriptions. Stephanie will follow up with the Records Retention subgroup to define the next steps

Vice President/ Tera Ramsey

Terry will advertise the 2026 open board positions at the September 13th Member Social.

Steve will generate contacts for the 2024, and 2025 interns from MailChimp. Tera will contact the interns regarding open board positions.

The *Strategic Plan* initial meeting will be on September 25 at 1 pm at LUX .

Tera shared that McMenamens offers fundraising events for non-profits. An application for 2026 is required.

OMGA/ Deb Hansen

- The dues of the chapters to OMGA will remain at current levels, for 2026.
- Hired new member to review the online courses used in training interns.
- Seed to Supper- program going to peer review.
- OSU has a new Volunteer Hub.
- OMGA is asking Chapters to use QuickBooks.
- OMGA would like a slide show of each chapters' demonstration garden for its website. Deb will contact leaders of each garden for photos.
- 2026 *Joy of Gardening* conference dates July 10, and 11.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

- MCS Garlic and Onion talk- Webinar attendance was high, 128 attendees.
- Strategic Plan- discussed earlier in the meeting by Tera.
- 2026 Budget- discussed by Stephanie earlier.

- Board Job Description question: Communications Director VS Newsletter Editor. There may be further discussion of the job description of the board position of Communications Director.

Hope Preston adjourned the meeting at 10am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mary Hewitt, Recording Secretary on September 18th, 2025

Approved by Hope Preston, President on September 18th, 2025