



Washington County Master Gardener™ Association

Minutes of 2025 October 10th Board Meeting, 9am at Extension Office

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

Absent- Stephanie Engle

Guests: Andrea, Nicole

Hope Preston, President opened the meeting at 9 am.

Tera Ramsey introduced our guests, incoming 2026 board members: Andrea (Recording Secretary) and Nicole (Communications)

BOARD REPORTS

Chapter Relations/ Terry Wagner

Larina will nominate the members of the Monthly Chapter Speakers committee as MG of note for November. She will write the article for Chapter Chat and help find a photo.

Treasurer/ Connie Kirby

Connie led a discussion to present the needed information for the Board to consider and vote to approve the 2026 budget.

Issues/Line items discussed-

- OSU Support
 - 1) **A motion was made to provide support for 2026. It was seconded, and passed by the Board.**
 - 2) **Connie moved to approve \$7500 as the amount of support for 2026. The motion was seconded and passed by the Board.**
- OMGA Dues and Donation- The draft will be adjusted to show that the dues for 2026 are the same as for 2025.
- Technology and Hardware- The cost of Zoom was reviewed.
- Issue Office/General Administration Expenditures- The Historian fund was unused in 2025. It will be removed for 2026.

The Board moved to approve the 2026 WCMGA budget, as amended. The motion was seconded and approved.

Programs/Larina Hoffbeck

Monthly Speakers for Member Chapter Meetings- Larina reported that nine of ten speakers are confirmed for 2026.

Larina Hoffbeck and Susan Albright are working on the 2026 Calendar of Chapter activities.

Communications/Steve Kister

Steve is continuing to coordinate and publish the monthly Chapter Chat.

Fundraising/Lisa Barnhart

We continue to be on track for healthy fundraising net income GF2025.

- Preparing to kick-off GardenFest 2026 in late October or early November. Fall natives and bare root plants are being purchased this month.
- The Bottledrop Give holiday campaign is November 15 – December 2

Lisa will write up announcement for chapter chat and include reminder about Renee's Seeds and Fred Meyer Rewards.

Publicity/Harriet Ottaviano

The mid-October and early November press releases have gone out. The remaining press releases for 2025 programs will go out next week.

The Home and Garden Calendar in the Oregonian/OregonLive is being discontinued due to staffing changes. In surveys taken after our large events, many people state that they read about it in the Oregonian.

Harriet sent a letter to the Oregonian "Events" telling them how important the calendar is to all gardening groups in the area.

She also notified several other groups including HPSO.

Business/Stephanie Engle

Stephanie sent her report to Hope via email due to her absence. The annual inventory update has been requested from Sue R, Robin B, Terry W, and Lisa B for their assigned areas. The due date is December 1. The Records Retention group will set up a meeting and work together to wrap up the project. Connie and Stephanie will report back to the Board in November.

Vice President- Tera Ramsey

Tera identified nominees for the following positions

Noted the board positions being filled:

- Communications Director- Nicole Dwigins
- Recording Secretary- Andrea Flint
- Publicity Director- Mary Oakes
- Chapter Relations- Mary Hewitt

OMGA Representative/Deb Hansen

No news at this time.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

Strategic Plan- The committee is creating survey to send to some members. The board is asked to provide feedback on the proposed questions.

Nominations to Board- The slate of candidates will be presented at the November Members Chapter Meeting for approval.

2026 Budget- The proposal will be published in the November *Chapter Chat*. Connie will be available to answer questions from the Q&A during the November Chapter meeting for Members. There will be a vote to approve the 2026 Budget, electronically at the meeting.

UPCOMING:

Oct 15	10am to noon	Gathering Gardeners meet at Plumper Farms Pumpkin Patch
Oct 18	10 am to noon	Lawn Be Gone- PCC Rock Creek
Nov 4	7pm to 8:30pm	“Forests in Flux” presentation and Chapter meeting by Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Hewitt WCMGA Recording Secretary

Approved by: Hope Preston WCMGA Chapter President