

**Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, March 8, 2011
Strasburg**

Attendees: Cy Haley, President; Bob Carlton, 2010 President; Suzanne Boag, Secretary; and Randy Langford, Volunteer Coordinator.

Cy Haley brought the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Secretary's Report: Suzanne Boag noted that the 13 February Board Minutes were posted on the web page and asked for changes or corrections. *Bob Carlton made a motion to accept the minutes as posted, Cy seconded, and all three Board members voted to accept the minutes. The motion carried.*

Treasurer's replacement: Cy explained that Anita Harris has agreed to serve as Treasurer. *All three Board members voted to appoint Anita as our new Treasurer pending membership approval at our next Association meeting on 20 March. Cy will provide a letter to the bank requesting that John Dickhute and Scott Hinkle be removed as signers on the NSVMGA account, and that she and Anita Harris be added as signers.*

Vice President's replacement: The Board discussed several possibilities and the hope is that we will have an appointment ready to be voted on by the membership at our next Association meeting on 20 March.

John Dickhute's status: Bob explained that he met with Bobby Clark yesterday, and later spoke via telephone with both, Dave Close, VCE Master Gardener Coordinator, and Steve Capaldo, VT Legal Counsel. All three re-affirmed that John was no longer a Master Gardener, and therefore, no longer a member of NSVMGA or President of NSVMGA. Bob learned that John did not resign, but was instead removed from the Master Gardener Program by VCE. Bob said that FOIA requests do not apply to non-profits and we are not obligated to comply with John's 6 March FOIA request sent to Board Officers and Advisory members. All three Board members voted to send an email to the Advisory Board informing them of John's removal from the Master Gardener Program and NSVMGA as well as the office of NSVMGA President.

Notification of John Dickhute: Bob learned that VCE notified John of his removal from the Master Gardener Program and ineligibility to belong to NSVMGA. However, in light of John's most recent email and certified letter dated 6 March, the Board decided to send a letter via email and USPS from the Board to clarify for John his removal from the Master Gardener Program as well as NSVMGA and his ineligibility to serve as a NSVMGA officer. John will also be informed that he will be restricted from participation in NSVMGA activities, including but not limited to, work on MG projects and attendance at NSVMGA meetings.

Web page access: All three Board members decided to change the password for the Members portion of the webpage to ensure that only NSVMGA members have access.

Amendments: Six amendments to the Bylaws have been circulated to the membership. Five of them will be voted on at the 20 March Association Meeting. Amendment 3, with suggested changes to Article VIII will be re-circulated to the membership with Randy Langford's recommended edits, and will be voted on by the membership at the 17 April Association Meeting.

Next Board Meeting: The Board scheduled a closed Board Meeting on Sunday, 13 March to be held at 2:00 p.m. at Cy's Office in Front Royal. The advisory board will be notified via email.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Boag
Secretary, NSVMGA