

Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association

Belle Grove Plantation, Frederick County

May 17, 2015

President Susan Garrett brought the meeting to order at 4 p.m. She welcomed everyone to the meeting.

April Meeting Minutes: Susan Garrett noted that the April Association Meeting Minutes had been circulated to the membership, and she asked for any changes or corrections. Bob Carlton moved to accept the minutes as circulated with no objections, and Sharon Bradshaw seconded the motion. The membership approved the motion.

Treasurer's Report: Lee Demko presented the report as follows. Cy Haley asked if one CD was turned into savings, and Lee said yes.

Glenn Martin asked what the reason is for having that much money in savings and wondered if it should be put to use. Susan explained that we had a number of substantial expenses and mentioned the following examples: background checks, Blandy, Belle Grove, \$200 to each county, and scholarships. Glenn asked if any was allotted for community projects. Susan said yes as counties proposed projects, but we are always interested in more ways to serve our communities and invited members to bring any ideas to the board. Another use of the money was that the 2015 intern class built raised beds; and while most was donated, there was an allotment to cover costs. Cy reminded the membership that all projects should have as their main purpose to educate the public.

Larry Haun asked what the scholarships are for. Susan explained the criteria - they go to horticultural students, and we also have a college scholarship. Larry suggested that we consider increasing the amount. Helen Lake explained we are relatively new to giving out scholarships and explained the history and purpose.

Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association
Financial Statement for Period Ending 4/30/2015

Outstanding Checks

1564	A Hutchinson	\$30.00	
1565	C Frenzel	\$50.00	
1566	M Neese	\$50.00	
1567	C DeMasi	\$39.14	
1568	C Dickey	\$24.98	
1569	Treas. Of Clarke Cnty	\$90.00	
Total Outstanding Checks as of 4/30/2015		\$284.12	
 Current Checking Balance as of 4/30/2015			\$6,203.60
 Investments:			
	CD United Bank		\$5172.24
	CD United Bank		\$5103.36
 Total Cash on Hand			 \$16,479.20

Submitted by Sandra Lee Demko, Treasurer

Vice President's Report: Next month's meeting is in Warren County at Belle Boyd Heritage Garden on June 14 (moved due to Father's Day). Members can tour free and learn about our association project. Susan reminded us to bring a chair!

Committee Reports

Communications and Publicity: Stacey Smith reported no change with ongoing projects. We have three members on the committee and welcome others.

- Stacey Smith is requesting "action shot" pictures of MG members staffing the Green Help Line, along with the names of all participants.
- Press will be going out with names of the scholarship winners.
- Monthly meetings are being published in the Shenandoah Valley Herald, and she's working on getting back into the Northern Virginia Daily.
- She's also working on publishing VCE "Monthly Gardening Tips" on the website to share vital information with the public.

- A Publicity and Communications will be held after Garden Fest with Elaine Specht and Sari Carp an intern with the 2015 class.

Education: Karen Brill and Sandy Ward are working on opportunities: Two 1.5-hour programs are planned for July. They have started working on next year's symposium and are asking for input from the members.

Finance: No report.

Membership: Mary Craig reported that she hopes to have a meeting in summer. Cy Haley asked what the committee does. Mary responded that they try to find ways to keep membership involved and to bring in new members. Susan referred us to the guidelines for more information.

Newsletter: No report. Susan asked if everyone was able to access the newsletter via the email link. The document is too large to email.

Master Gardener 2015 Class: Cy Haley reported that the class has been completed, everyone passed, and two already have their 50 hours.

Scholarship: Lee Demko announced the names of the four scholarship winners.

GardenFest Update: Cy Haley, project leader, reported that the MG 2015 class picture will be at 7:30 a.m. and graduation at 2:30 at speaker's tent. She encouraged MGs to come back to welcome the new interns. Need volunteer commitments. If need signs, let the leaders know. Will do a walkthrough after the meeting.

Sharon Bradshaw pointed out that posters and locations are in the back, as are half sheets to distribute at farmer's markets.

Cy Haley reported that we're good on vendors.

Cyndi Walsh advised that we have 65 registered kids, and we'll have some walk-ins. Need help cutting bottles and rolling paper tubes for pollinator boxes. If you see children, ask them what their bracelets mean.

Cy Haley advised to drop off any Second Hand Rose items in the corn crib. Angie Hutchinson told the group that NO items accepted day of Garden Fest.

Carolyn Wilson sent out a plants reminder. Please bring all plants to drop off Friday. If have to bring Saturday morning, must be delivered by 7:00 a.m. All plants will be sorted by variety in the morning on Friday, and at 1 p.m. pricing will begin. Enid McConnell asked if we need boxes to take home plants, and Carolyn replied yes.

Cy Haley advised that Siobhan O'Brien will need help earlier in the week setting up animal pens.

James Jones asked what time to get there Friday, and Cy suggested 10 a.m. On Saturday, park in back until it tills up, and then park in cow pasture. Gate opens at 8 a.m. Be ready at volunteer stations by 7:45. Susan pointed out this is our key teaching event.

Junior Master Gardeners: Helen Lake reported that Tammy Epperson, VCE/Extension Technician out of Winchester, has requested that MG volunteers come out and help the Jr. MG students plant their vegetables in the C-CAP garden.

County Coordinators' Reports

Clarke: Clarke was in charge of Mother's Day [GARDENFAIR] at Blandy, and Farmer's Markets have begun.

Frederick: John Kummer gave thanks to Emily Wickham, who managed a smooth transition. GeenLine needs volunteers, and Elizabeth Bevan is the lead on this project. Enid McConnell needs volunteers for the last Lowe's Help Desk on May 23.

Page: Some work to pull out some competing vegetation around chinquapin oak, which is now second largest in state.

Shenandoah: Sharon Bradshaw advised their projects include GreenLine, two farmers markets, New Market Rain Garden, and Sam Moore Slave Cemetery work. Sarah Kohrs gave more details about the project.

Warren: Ground was broken for the children's garden.

Volunteer Coordinator's Report: Mary Flagg thanked members for turning in project and recertification forms. Check your interests online. She asked if there is anyone who doesn't get VMS e-mails. Check your interests online. Cy Haley reminded everybody, when sending e-mail to the whole association to not just select "Master Gardeners" but instead to also check the boxes for trainees and interns or most simply use the category "Email all volunteers".

VCE Liaison: Mark Sutphin is on vacation, so Susan reminded the 2016 class is scheduled for Frederick and to tentatively be held during the day. She also gave a background screening overview.

Old Business

Mary Craig reported that the Blandy Educational Garden is looking good which is a Pasta Garden. Volunteers are needed for Wednesdays or Sundays.

Elena Lycas has some of the MG apparel. There is a delay in the zippered sweatshirt.

New Business

Susan Garrett will deliver the rain barrel purchased from Alison Teeter to Belle Grove for the raffle.

Adjournment: Bob Carlton made a motion to adjourn, James Jones seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Behrends
Secretary, NSVMGA