

**Minutes for The Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association
Association Meeting Held September 18, 2016**

Call to Order

The Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association held an Association meeting September 18, 2016, at the Hawksbill Greenway in Luray.

Susan Garrett, president, presided over the meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM. Stacey Smith served as secretary.

Opening Remarks

Due to possible rain, Susan Garrett requested we immediately vote on the recommended bylaws change.

Motion: Angie Hutchinson made a motion to approve the amendment of the Bylaws which removes the words "college and high school," making the Bylaws read "G) The Scholarship Committee shall be responsible for administering the Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association (NSVMGA) Memorial Scholarships as described in the most recent Guidelines." Sharon Bradshaw seconded the motion. The motion carried with 25 active members in favor and none against.

Attendees

29 Master Gardener Volunteers, Interns, and guests were in attendance. *With 25 active members in attendance, a quorum was present.* (Attendee list attached.)

Officers' Reports

Secretary:

Susan Garrett noted that the minutes for the previous month's association meeting were distributed via email.

Motion: Sharon Bradshaw made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous month's association meeting as distributed. Lee Demko seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor and none against.

Correspondence:

None.

Treasurer:

Lee Demko presented the following treasurer's report:

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NORTHERN SHENANDOAH VALLEY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

Finance Statement for August, 2016

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Checking Balance as of July 31, 2016 \$ 6,400.75

1 Deposit for August, 2016 (Total = \$ 145.00)

<u>Date</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Project</u>
8/23		\$ 145.00	GF

Total Deposits for August, 2016 \$ 145.00

3 Debits for August, 2016 (\$ 170.00)

<u>Date</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Project</u>
8/9	1705	\$ 42.05	GF
8/18	1710	\$ 45.72	Fair Judging
8/25	1711	\$ 82.23	Poccadilly Printing (notepads)

Total Debits for August, 2016 \$ 170.00

Checking Balance as of August 31, 2016 \$ 6,375.75

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Balance as of July 31, 2016 (\$ 8,535.59)

<u>Activity/Date</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Project</u>
8/10	Deposit	\$ 30.00	donation
8/30	Deposit	\$ 152.23	Barn Series 8/21/16
8/31	Interest	\$ 0.72	

Scholarship Fund Balance as of 8/31/2016 \$ 8,718.54

RESERVE FUND

<u>Activity/Date</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Project</u>
8/31/2016	Interest	\$ 0.44	

Reserve Fund Balance as of 8/31/2016 \$ 5,207.60

Total on Hand as of 8/31/2016 **\$ 20,301.89**

Respectfully submitted, Sandra Lee Demko, Treasurer

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Vice President:

Karen Brill presented the vice president's report. The October meeting is in Clarke County at the Blandly Library, where we will learn about two community garden projects.

Standing Committee Report

Communications and Publicity:

Kris Behrends presented the Communications and Publicity report. The final Barn Series for the year is October 2nd and is entitled "Autumn Wonders." The program may continue in 2017. Please save copies of newspapers containing articles about NSVMGA and give them to Mary Craig, historian.

Education:

No report.

Finance:

Lee Demko presented the Finance report. Budget needs are due by October 1, 2016 for projects and committees.

Susan Garrett mentioned that dues must be paid by January 31st of each year with a 30-day grace period. Lee will begin taking dues for 2017 in November.

Membership:

Mary Craig presented the Membership report. She encouraged everyone to pay their dues early and to get their 20 project and 8 education hours entered into VMS.

Newsletter:

No report.

Special Committee Reports

2017 Symposium:

Susan Garrett presented the Symposium report. The event is set for April 1, 2017, at Lord Fairfax Community College in Middletown. Sandy Ward and Bob Gail are coordinating the event with their committee, and they are all working hard on creating a wonderful day of learning.

2017 Nominating Committee:

Stacey Smith presented the 2017 Nominating Committee report. On Tuesday the committee presented its slate of nominees to the Board:

President: Cy Haley

Vice-President: Suzanne Boag

Secretary: Stacey Smith

Treasurer: Bob Gail

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Past President: Susan Garrett

While the Nominating Committee has presented its slate, any member who meets the qualifications set forth in the Bylaws may nominate him or herself or be nominated, with permission, by another member from the floor during the November business meeting. Active NSVMGA members will vote on the nominees during the November business meeting. The vice-president will circulate more information about that meeting closer to the date.

We need a quorum at the November meeting to hold the election. If the election cannot happen, the President will call a special meeting for the election of officers.

County Coordinator Reports

Clarke County Coordinator:

Mary Craig reported the county fair went well, as did the Unit Project Blandy Community Garden. Susan Garrett reported the farmers market ends in September, and the county cleaned up the xeriscape garden.

Frederick County Coordinator:

Russ Watkins reported the Lowe's Help Desk went well, with around 50 people asking questions. Angie Hutchinson reported Greenwood Mills has started. Susan Garrett reported NSVMGA is no longer maintaining the Hedgebrook rain garden.

Page County Coordinator:

Lesley Mack presented the Page County report, welcoming everyone to Page. Greenline calls have been coming in from several new people moving into Page County, as well as from locals. Cheryl McDonald wrapped up a successful season at the farmers market, and Charlie Newton's water quality booth at the Page County Fair was worthwhile. A new project is starting up in New Market at Bushong Farm, restoring the period gardens.

Shenandoah County Coordinator:

Sharon Bradshaw presented the Shenandoah County report. All ongoing projects are being monitored and several have ended for the year. The Shenandoah County Fair was very successful, with extra interest generated by an interactive display created by Elaine Specht. Children could read the criteria for judging a vegetable and attach a blue ribbon to the photo showing the winning display based on the entry guidelines.

Two new projects have begun in the county. The Edinburg Mill Rain Garden has a booth in the Old Time Edinburg Festival this weekend, with Mark's groundwater interactive model on hand and several water quality and rain garden publications for distribution. Our location will be in proximity to the rain garden itself.

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The second new project, just approved this week, is for our collaboration with the Friends of the North Fork in landscape planning for the Seven Bends State Park. Sari Carp has been consulting with the group for several weeks. As plans have moved forward with the park itself, she realized that a formal project approval was in order.

For a couple of years, a community garden has been identified as project of interest in the county. A property owner who is interested in having Master Gardeners give classes and guidance to future gardeners has approached us. We will meet with him in early October to work out details.

Class of 2017

The Management Team has been meeting to work out many of the details involved in presenting a successful Trainee class. We have several great volunteers on board and, with four months to go before registration, we are focusing on everyone sending names and email addresses of interested folks to Mark's office. The invitation to be in the upcoming class will be sent out from his office in mid-October.

The county coordinators have been given half-sheet individual handouts for distribution to promote the class. It's too early to post flyers, but individual invitations to become a Master Gardener are most effective.

Warren County Coordinator:

Katherine Rindt presented the Warren County report via email. The Blandy ArborFest is October 8th and 9th, and volunteers are needed. Contact her to sign up. There was a tour of the green roof at Shenandoah University for the church staff and Master Gardeners involved with the Front Royal Presbyterian Church Garden Project. The last day for staffing the Help Line is September 26th, when the county moves to on-call mode.

Volunteer Coordinator:

Mary Flagg presented the Volunteer Coordinator report via email. In the class of 2016, only 3 people are not full Master Gardeners. There are four transfer/reinstatement requests.

VCE Agent:

Mark has put a new project form on VMS, which includes a new heading and indicia.

Old Business

- 1 – Yearly Hours: Kris Behrends, timekeeper, asked everyone to get their hours entered soon.
- 2 – Nature Photography Class: Susan Garrett reported that 20 people are interested in the class, and Sari Carp is looking for a location.
- 3 – Presentations: Russ Watkins would like volunteers to give presentations at ArborFest.

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New Business

None.

Closing Remarks

None.

Adjournment

Motion: Mary Craig motioned that the meeting be adjourned, and Stacey Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried with all in favor and none against, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacey M. Smith

10/16/16

Stacey Smith, Secretary

Date Approved by the Association

Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association