

Minutes for Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardener Association
Board of Directors Meeting Held January 9, 2020

Call to Order

The Northern Shenandoah Valley Master Gardeners Association held a board of directors' meeting January 9, 2019 at 125 Prosperity Drive, Winchester, Virginia 22602. Bob Gail, President, presided over the meeting and called it to order at 6:00 PM.

Opening Remarks

Bob Gail welcomed everyone to the meeting. Bob informed attendees that motions from this meeting could not be voted on because a quorum of Board members was not present. He indicated that he would send out any motions to the Board members and have them voted on via email.

Attendees

Voting Board of Directors

Bob Gail, President

Misa Mulroney, Treasurer

Advisory Board Members

Ann Levi, Clarke County Coordinator

Mary Turner, Frederick County Coordinator

Kathy Doyle, Shenandoah County Coordinator

Jessica Priest-Cahill, Warren County Coordinator

Lynn Hoffmann, Publicity/Scholarship Chair

Stacey Smith, Volunteer Coordinator

Ginny Smith, Historian/Membership Chair

Joyce Watson, Newsletter Editor

Elaine Specht, Seed Exchange Chair/Class Co-Chair

Mark Sutphin, VCE Agent

Other members attending included Russ Watkins.

Officers' Reports

Vice President

Carolyn Rutherford was not present. Lynn Hoffmann presented information on the 2020 Association meetings:

January 19, 2020 – Strasburg Community Library, 195 West King St., Strasburg

- Speaker: Tim McCoy, VT Extension Associate
- Topic: The Native Bee Project and other pollinators

February 16, 2020 – Blandy Farm, Boyce

- Speaker: Chris Schmidt, Arborist
- Topic: Pruning Shrubs and Trees

(No Meeting in March due to Symposium)

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April 19, 2020 – Fort Valley Nursery, 1175 S. Hisey Ave, Woodstock

- Speaker: Terry Fogle, Owner
- Topic: TBD.

May 17, 2020 – Casey Farm Tree (TENTATIVE)

- Details will be confirmed soon.

(No meeting in June due to GardenFest)

The remaining 2020 Association meetings will be communicated as they are scheduled. All Association meetings will be scheduled for 3-5 PM.

Secretary

Sandy Ward was not present. She sent out the November minutes for review via email. Misa Mulroneu moved to accept the minutes. Bob Gail seconded the motion. The minutes will be sent out via email for a vote by the Board. (The Board subsequently approved the motion by unanimous email vote.)

Correspondence: None

Treasurer's Report and Finance Committee

Misa Mulroneu addressed questions on the financial reports, which she had sent out to the Board via email.

(See Appendix for the Financial Reports for November and December 2019.)

New Business

Bob presented a draft of the 2020 NSVMGA Organizational Chart for discussion and identification of edits. He asked that everyone review the chart and get back to him with updates. He will then send it out to the membership. (See Appendix for draft chart.)

Old Business

None.

VCE Agent Report

Mark Sutphin reported that re-enrollment forms have been coming in. Mark is looking for a Strasburg Garden Education/Workshop Leader.

Mark also reported that no funds have been included for additional VCE personnel in the current version of the Governor's budget.

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ELC Member Report

Mark reported that there is a Frederick County ELC meeting on March 9 with the Frederick County Board of Supervisors.

Volunteer Coordinator Report

Stacey Smith reported the following:

- The FallFest project request was amended to include a date of September 12, 2020 and a location of Richard's Farm Market.
- A revised Spotted Lanternfly project was reviewed and was acknowledged as an important project. Due to the large amount of funds being requested, the Board requested that the project be broken into three phases:
 - Phase One can be approved when the breakdown is completed
 - Phase Two will be approved after the Board receives a report on the success of Phase One.
 - Phase Three will be approved after the Board receives a report on the success of Phase Two.
- A potential project request for the Children's Garden at Seven Bends State Park was reviewed by the project leader, Kathy Doyle. She will gather more information and funding requirements and present it again at the next Board meeting.
- Stacey is developing programs to for celebration and recognition of member activities. More to follow
- Five-Year Anniversary pins will be presented at the January 19 Association meeting.
- Stacey will send a link to all members to access online Spotted Lanternfly modules.

County Coordinator Reports

Clarke

Ann Levi reported that there will be a Clarke County meeting on January 19 prior to the Association meeting to discuss 2020 Clarke County projects. Currently identified projects are the Greenline, Clarke County Fair and Xeriscape Garden.

Frederick

Mary Turner is scheduling a Frederick County meeting in the first quarter. Known projects are the Winchester Farmer's Market, the Fremont Street Nursery Garden Program and the Timbrook Community Garden.

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Lesley Mack submitted her report via email.

The PCMG meeting will be held January 12, 1:00 PM, at the Massanutten Country Corners shop on Rt.211, 6 miles west of Luray. The group will welcome the new MG trainees: Julie Edmonds, Vanessa Kulick, and Mark and Nancy Reed. They will discuss the pros and cons of last year's projects, as well as any new projects. They will collect gently used books or suggest they be brought to the NSVMGA meeting.

Lesley will be bringing a bee-filled tube to the January Association meeting for Tim McCoy and will be purchasing replacement tubes and Lynn Hoffman's remaining PVC tubes.

Shenandoah

Kathy Doyle reported that there was a Shenandoah County meeting in December to review 2020 projects.

Warren

Jessica Priest-Cahill reported the following items:

- In December, Warren County MG's provided refreshments for the Virginia Master Gardener Association meeting held in Warren County at the Northern Virginia 4H Educational Center. The meeting was well attended. Attendees were impressed by the facility and Mark's presentation on the spotted lanternfly.
- Currently Warren MGs are watering the indoor plants at Samuels Public Library. MG intern Haley Coloso completed information tags to identify, describe care, and provide interesting facts about the plants. They are also doing two presentations at the Library in the next few months: James Jones on orchids and Jessica on planting for wildlife. They hope to find a speaker (or speakers) for a series on vegetable gardening.
- Jessica and Marie are meeting with Warren County extension agent Stacey Swain on January 16 to discuss the possibility of beginning a Jr. Master Gardener program in Warren.
- Jessica has scheduled a county planning meeting for Monday, February 10 at 6 PM at Samuels Public Library to discuss current county projects - Greenline, Samuels, and Belle Boyd - and any other issues/potential projects county MG's bring up.

Standing Committee Reports

Communications and Publicity

Lynn Hoffmann reported that information about the upcoming seed exchange was sent to the newspapers.

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Website

Stacey Smith and Lynn Hoffmann will schedule a meeting with Kyle Kennedy to plan out site updates and agree on turnaround time. Results will be shared at the next Board meeting. In the meantime, Stacey will support Kyle as emergency backup if he is unable to make updates within a week.

Newsletter

Joyce Watson reported that the January Newsletter is ready for publication.

Membership

Stacey Smith requested the following the following membership status updates for the 2020 calendar year:

- John Stevens and Mary Carlton be given Honorary Member status
- Jeff Patton be given Adjunct Member status
- Paula Brownlee be given VCE Emeritus status

Motion: Misa Mulrone moved to make these changes; Bob Gail seconded the motion. An email vote will be sent to the Board members to approve this motion.

[By email vote, the Board subsequently approved the motion by a vote of three in favor with one abstention.]

Stacey also reported that Sonja Eckles and Anne Dewey-Balheiser have decided to leave the Association for personal reasons. In addition, Stacey reviewed the list of current members who have not completed a re-enrollment form and/or paid dues and/or entered their hours. She requested that if anyone at the meeting knew any of these members, that they contact them and ask them to complete their requirements.

Special Committees

2020 Seed Exchange

Elaine Specht reported that the Seed Exchange will be held on January 25 at Blandy. She still needs volunteers for a couple of activities.

Elaine also stated that she will not lead this project in 2021.

2020 MG Class

Elaine Specht reported that the first class is Saturday, January 11 starting at 8:30 AM at the Farm Credit facility. Mentors are invited for the first 30 minutes. The first class lab on Seed Starting and Vegetable Gardens will be on Wednesday, January 15. Elaine will notify members if she needs help with the lab.

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2020 GardenFest

Stacey Smith and Lynn Hoffmann reported that GardenFest planning is on target.

Russ Watkins reported that GardenFest pots will be moved to one location at Jeff Burke's farm in Middletown.

Stacey reported that there will be a change in getting project hours for plant sitting. Instead of five plants per hour in the past it will now be ten plants per hour.

Stacey is looking for a new lead for the 2021 plant sale.

2020 FallFest

The 2020 FallFest project leader is Susan Groom. It will be held on September 12 at Richard's Farm Market.

More information will be reported at a later date.

Closing Remarks

Lynn Hoffmann reported that the Indoor Plant Clinic will be held on February 1 at Bowman Library. She will not lead the project next year.

2020 Garden Fair

Ann Levi reported that the 2020 Garden Fair will be held over Mother's Day weekend at Blandy. Warren and Shenandoah counties will be responsible for leading this year's project.

Adjournment

Without objection, Bob adjourned the meeting at 7:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted by _____

Sandra Ward

NSVMGA Secretary

Date Approved _____

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APPENDIX