

Bergen County Master Gardeners  
Board Meeting – May 24, 2011

The meeting was opened at 5:45 pm.

Present: Barb Johansson, Karen Pennell, Janet Jaarsma, Sissel Castelli, Charles Maietta, Leslie Maltz, Lucy Malka, Walter Traubel, Jane Furman, Tracey Fraser, Sally Ditton, Hank Annunziata.

Absent: Joseph Cooper, Cliff Gerenz, Janet Austin, Laura De Flora, and Lois Lynch.

The minutes of the Board Meeting on April 26, 2011 were approved.

**The President presented the following items for discussion and action:**

The recipients for the 2011 awards for excellence are Leslie Maltz and Karen Pennell. Bio's relating their work for BCMG will be written by Barb.

Barb requested that when individual board members require placement on the agenda, they forward their interest to her in advance of the meeting date.

The presence of guests at our yearly parties is to be determined by the party host/organizer. This year's picnic hosts, Leslie and Bert Taylor, extend the invitation to members and spouses or significant others.

We are to post the *And Justice For All* poster at every meeting on Rutgers's behalf; this so that they can continue to secure Federal funding (see Federal Funding Guidelines enacted in 1972). The further demand that we count the number of races in our audience will be conducted and recorded by a member of the Board.

The publicity that we generate - thank you, Sally – will continue to be saved.

The board determined that state meeting travel expenses will be reimbursed at \$25.00 per trip to the driver of the pool beginning in June of this year.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Sissel reported an income of \$225.00, expenses of \$848.95, and as of 5/24.11 a checking account balance of \$10,619.89.

**Various Board Members were polled for their concerns and reported as follows:**

Jane advised that the pins are in and needs an immediate \$218.00 check to be cashed and contributed to the State MG "slush" fund.

Federal Funding for Rutgers will remain level.

Fact Sheets dated 2000 or older will not appear on the RU website. Coauthors are being sought to write replacement articles on same and additional topics. Topics suggested by the board included stink bugs, native plants, and shade plants.

This year 297 new NJ State MG's were certified bringing us up to a total of 6,636 since the program's inception.

Passaic County Master Gardeners recently named a scholarship in honor of Edith Wallace.

Karen announced that Susan Gurak will serve as overall coordinator for the Kolvek Plant Sale on June 11. Leslie will email a flier to the membership, area garden clubs and program directors, the last in conjunction with Lucy. A hand stamp will be used to designate MG's for this event and printed information will be available to those attending who indicate an interest in becoming an MG.

Karen will again distribute sign up sheets for both the Kolvek event and the August MG fair scheduled for the first weekend in August.

The remainder of the meeting was spent on the board's determining the advisability of becoming a not for profit organization. Bert Taylor delineated the pros and cons of achieving 501c3 status. After a fulsome discussion, Bert was asked to pursue additional avenues of inquiry.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

---

Our membership meeting began at 7:30. Karen distributed sign up sheets. Leslie repeated the picnic invitation, and Lois announced trips. Weibke Hinsch polled those attending on the matter of continuing the yahoo.com website. Our speaker for the evening, Leslie Billera spoke on the topic, *Building Green*.

Janet Jaarsma, Recording Secretary