

**Bergen County Master Gardeners
Board of Directors Minutes of
January 22, 2013**

Meeting called to order at 5:50 PM by Vice President Joseph Cooper.

Present; Joseph Cooper, Sissel Castelli, Amy Chang, Jane Furman, Barbara Johansson, Hank Annunziata, Lucy Malka, John Walters and Donna Karpel.

Vice President Cooper opened the meeting in place of President Karen Pennell.

Minutes of December 7, 2012 were accepted with no changes.

Treasurer's Report: January 2013 Income; \$1,140.00 Expenses; \$ 661.19
Checking Balance; \$14,188.00

Sissel also stated that she has received Dues from 157 members for 2013 thus far, In the amount of \$3,140.

Sissel presented to the board a preliminary operating budget for 2013 after discussion and a few tweaks, it will be brought back to the board for final approval at the February meeting.

Chairman Cooper referred to a note from President Pennell about awarding service pins to members of the MGofBC. A motion was made and passed, that the following pins will be awarded to members: 5 Years (Yellow) 10 Years (Blue) 15 Years (Lavender) 20 Years (Red) and 25 Years (Color to be determined.)

The above discussion led to ways of promoting The MGofBC as membership seems to be declining slightly and to make us visible to the general public. Some suggestions were imprinted lanyards, decals, shirts. After much discussion this was tabled and to be carried over to future meetings.

Committee Reports

Website: Joseph, reported due to the use of smart phones and tablets being used by more of our members, There is a problem that all or some of text and or pictures cannot be downloaded by some of these operating systems. He is looking into an Adobe acrobat program that may solve this problem.

Plans to expand the website, it consists of two sides the public side and the members side. The public can go to our website and getting a lot of useful information. Joseph is looking to put links to the Rutgers's fact sheets to make them easily available to the public. This will promote Rutgers and our website.

On the members side the addition of past presidents of MGofBC going back about 26

years are to be added, and committee job descriptions.

Publicity: Sally reported that some of the local clubs and committees are not getting their information in early enough. Whatever can be put in the mid-month Potting Shed is done to help get the word out.

Local Garden Club: Lucy also cited that some local clubs are not sending her the information on speaker and dates in a timely manner. She also said that some clubs are not meeting until after February.

Trips and Tour Joseph reported in lieu of Lois Lynch The New Jersey Flower show to be held in Edison, NJ, on February 14th thru February 17th with an entrance fee of \$15. There will be a \$3 discount coupon on our website, for any member to print off. Public Service Electric & Gas Co. through their mailing is offering a free entry for two people (\$30 value) check with them or ask other members who are going alone using PSE&G coupon.

Master Gardeners Assoc. of NJ: Jane Furman Suggested that the MGofBC buy a table at the Fall Conference, which will help as a fund raiser. It was agreed to form a subcommittee to work out details and report back to the board with recommendations.

Other Business

Barbara Johansson started a discussion on having a luncheon or get together with former MGofBC who are no longer members who cannot meet the required volunteer hours required, due to health or other circumstances. Most of the Board members, in the interest of time, thought this should be brought back at another time.

A motion was also made to purchase "Past Presidents Pins" for their past service and leadership to the board. It was seconded and past.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM