

**Master Gardeners of Bergen County
Board of Directors Minutes for**

October 28, 2014

Meeting was called to order by President Cooper at 5:45

Present at the meeting: Joseph Cooper, Suzanne Danzig, Leslie Maltz, Fran Langendoen, Jane Furman, Donna Karpel, Karen Pennell, John Walters, Tracey Fraser, Pat Fromm, Joe Papa, Hank Annunziata

Previous Minutes:

Karen Pennell motioned to approve the April 22nd minutes with no corrections, Donna Karpel second the motion.

Pat Fromm motioned to approve the May 20th minutes with no corrections, Jane Furman second the motion.

September minutes will be approved at next meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance as of September 24, 2014.....\$12,568.36

Balance as of October 28, 2014\$12,358.36

Corresponding Secretary:

Serpil was not in attendance.

Presidents Report:

The National MG Coordinators Conference is coming up. Rutgers is suggesting that each county contribute to the costs of the conference. Joel has requested the Bergen County Master Gardeners contribute \$500 to cover Bergen County's expenses. Joseph asked for boards' input.

*Put to vote: 7 yes', 3 abstain, 2 no's. Board agrees to contribute \$500 to the MG Coordinators' Conference.

Good turnout at the County Fair and the MG booth. The video of the fair, provided by Joseph will be posted on our website.

Finance Committee:

Jean is stepping down and Joseph is looking to fill the position by someone with a financial background.

Class Liaison:

The current class liaison is Joe Papa. Welcome and thank you Joe!

Outreach Events and Volunteers:

- Thank you to all of the volunteers at the County Fair September 28 & 29.
- Jeffrey Chan hosted the MG table at the NJBG Annual Autumn Festival on October 2nd.
- Robyn Lowenthal from 'Care on the Corner' requested MG assistance. She is looking to start a gardening program for children using raised beds and requested the assistance from MG to build beds. BCMG cannot assist with construction or financing of raised beds but Tracey suggested we send them a pamphlet on how to construct raised beds. (detailed notes of conversation with Robyn available)
- Suggestions that we do a better job of advertizing BCMG at all events
- “How do we find out about opportunities to participate in community events?”
- focus is on not for profits.

Garden Club Liaison:

Lucy was not in attendance.

Hospitality:

BCMG Holiday party will take place on December 9th at the Education Center in the Van Saun Zoo. Lists will go out assigning refreshments.
The new class breakfast will take place on November 14th, set-up will be at 9, sign-up for refreshments and paper goods.

Archivist:

Barbara Johansson is looking to step down. Barb has initiated a tedious task and now feels someone with scanning and computer skills will be better suited for the task. Joseph is looking for someone with such skills to step into this position ASAP.

Membership:

- John Walters indicated that registrations were coming in with \$1100+ of additional donations made by various members.
- Corrections need to be made to directory this year as there are several mistakes.

Newsletter:

Members enjoying the new format with many positive comments. Questioned raised as to who the contributing writers are and Leslie said they are listed separately. Thank you Tracey for her constructive input. There are only 12 newsletters being mailed all others are electronic.

Publicity:

Pat was not in attendance. It was suggested that someone be directly in contact with Bergen County/Rutgers Cooperative Extension to follow-up with advertising efforts for County events as there seems to be a lack of advertising.

RMGANJ:

Jane reported that the MG Conference was a great event. Joseph produced a video, Karen organized the door prizes and Jane and John were wonderful assistance to the coordination of the event. It is with great sadness that Jane will be stepping down from this position as she will be moving out of the area.

*Joseph requested a vote to approve that Karen Pennell move into this position, all were in favor.

Sunshine:

Jane has organized groups from each class to report news to the Sunshine committee in an effort to keep connections ongoing and to provide positive and current information, working well. Jane will assist in keeping these committees going.

Again, Jane will be stepping down from this position and Joseph is looking for a replace ASAP.

Site Coordinator Liaison:

Garretson Forge and Farm will be holding a Wreath Workshop on **November 30th from 1-4pm** Theilke Arboretum will be hosting a "Holiday Wreath Decorating Workshop on **November 22**. There will be sessions: 10:00am-12:00pm and 1:00pm-3:00pm. There will be a fee of \$25 per wreath. Volunteer opportunities.

Speakers Bureau:

Janet not in attendance.

Tours and Trips:

Risa not present.

***Motion:** Donna Karpel motioned to nominate Josie Ko as Tours and Trips committee chair Leslie Maltz second.

Programs:

Tracey will be stepping down as Programs Chair as she is moving to Cape Cod. Thank you Tracey for your 8 years of dedication and providing us with wonderful, informative speakers!!

Joseph is looking to fill this position. In the meantime Tracey has arranged speakers through May.

November: Jeannie Geremia "Butterflies and Bee Gap"

January: Ted Zawinski "Plant & Soil Relationships"

February: Bill Hlubik "Organic Gardening-Natural Landscaping"

March: Arnie Friedman "Storm Water Management"

April: Ira Grassgreen "Annuals Rock"

May: Katie Widell from the New Jersey Meadowland Commission.

Writers Bureau:

Daphne not in attendance.

Volunteers Records:

Donna would like to provide a sample Volunteer/education hours form to assist with correct way to fill out form. All forms should be sent electronically to Donna.

Nominating Committee:

Karen Pennell presented the nominated Slate of Officers to the board. The nominating committee consisting of Karen Pennell, Carol Thielke and Tracey Fraser asked all existing officers to continue on for another term and all agreed. These officers will have to be presented to MG at the open meeting. ***Motion:** Leslie Maltz motioned to approve the slate of officers, Jane Furman second the motion and all in attendance were in favor.

New Business:

New MG apparel is available, forms will be in the next newsletter. Jessica Wang is coordinator or purchasing.

Skylands Holiday Open House decorating committee will be decorating on November 29, Dec 1st & 2nd.

Pat Fromm moved to adjourned the meeting at 6:55, second from Jane Furman.