

**Master Gardeners of Bergen County
Board of Directors Minutes for
April 28, 2015**

Meeting was called to order by President Cooper at 5:35

Present at the meeting: Joseph Cooper, Suzanne Danzig, Leslie Maltz, Fran Langendoen, Donna Karpel, Hank Annunziata, Pat Libutti, Serpil Leveen, Donna Faustini, Josie Ko, Daphne Boss Ayalon, Karen Pennell

Recording Secretary:

March minutes approved.

Suzanne requested that someone take minutes at next month's meeting, she will be traveling. Fran volunteered to take the minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

**Amendment to previous Treasurer's reports due to miss calculations:*

September 24, 2014-October 28, 2014:

Balance as of September 24, 2014	\$12,568.36
Balance as of October 28, 2014	\$12,755.38

October 28, 2014-November 18, 2014:

Balance as of October 28, 2014	\$12,755.38
Balance as of November 18, 2014	\$12,950.27

November 18, 2014-January 27, 2015:

Balance as of November 18, 2014	\$12,950.27
Balance as of January 27, 2015	\$10,922.24

January 27, 2015-February 24, 2015:

Balance as of January 27, 2015	\$10,922.24
Balance as of February 24, 2015	\$12,400.24

February 24, 2015-March 24-2015:

Balance as of February 24, 2015	\$12,400.24
Balance as of March 24, 2015	\$11,650.05

March 24, 2015-April 28, 2015:

(waiting for March-April budget)

President's Report:

-Graduation is scheduled for November 14th.

-The Bergen Community College event was very well attended in spite of the lack of advertising.

-Bruce Walenczyk is assisting the MGofBC with our audit and getting our 501C3 reinstatement.

Corresponding Secretary:

Class Liaison:

Joe has not been attending the meetings and there is concern that the current class is not getting important information.

Outreach Events and Volunteers:

April 19th Earth Day was a huge success with Diane Lynch taking the lead. Several handouts from Bergen Clean Community.

April 19th Party for the Planet Jeffrey Chan lead the zoo crew, they were very busy. Some members did not show which makes things difficult.

April 25th Earth Fes at Overpeck Park Good flow of people all day, may 200 stopped by to ask about the MG program. Again a few volunteers did not show.

June 7th Fort Lee Arts & Music Festival I have registered MGofBC for 10x10 table. Will have sign ups at meeting for volunteers.

Purchased a 6' table for Outreach to be used at community events.

Garden Club Liaison:

Lucy not in attendance

Hospitality:

Summer MG picnic will take place at a Van Saun pavilion, there is a \$195 usage fee. The application needs 4 potential dates. We agreed upon July 7 & 28 and August 4 & 11.

The Holiday Party will take place at Glen Rock Athletic Club on Tuesday December 15th. Some people were concerned about the parking but felt it was still the best venue for the party.

Archivist:

Continue to seek replacement for this position.

Membership:

John was not at the meeting. John will try to schedule the adhoc meeting in the near future so that we can make decisions about membership categories before the next membership renewal.

Newsletter:

There are several plant sales that are listed in the newsletter this month. There was a discussion about the length of any one article and it was agreed that one page is the limit for one article.

Joseph suggested we provide a link to the MGofBC website for a lengthy article to be continued.

Leslie would like to be able to monitor if these links are being used but it may be too time consuming to do that. Joseph indicated that it would only take a day or so to actually set up a link.

Leslie would read and approve all articles that will appear on website.

Joel had a request that we advertise "help wanted" for both Abma's and Rohsler's.

Publicity:

Pat Libutti looked at Internet resources to see where our publicity releases were placed. Not surprisings, all eight programs held between September and April were represented on Patch , with eight releases per month (12 towns.) Online newspapers that published our announcements most were: *Paramus Post*, *Village Green*, *Ridgewood*, and *Riverdell Bulletin*. Adding to the spreading word was Lucy Malek's email to Garden Club presidents, Bergen County, which is a very targeted placement .

Pat has prepared a survey to be taken at a live meeting. All attending will be asked to raise their hands about motivation/affiliation for coming . The Board will be getting a copy.

RMGANJ:

Essex County offered a beautiful tour of Presby Gardens.

Passaic was looking for a program coordinator and picked up a state board member, Claudia Nick reported on the recording of lifetime hours and found that no one is actually recording them.

Sunshine:

Continue to seek chair for this committee and will offer it out at the general meeting.

Site Coordinator Liaison:

-There have been great articles in the newsletter. The Zoo at Van Saun will be the feature article this month.

-Tenafly Nature Center still does not have an official site/volunteer coordinator. Vivienne DeMarco is a suggested candidate because she is already there. It was suggested that we hold a one day event to attract interest and if we cannot promote interest that we will have to drop the site.

-Garretson Farm Annual Spring Festival and Plant Sale, Saturday, May 2, 10am-4pm. In addition there will be Open Hearth Colonial Cooking Demos, Revolutionary War Re-enactors, May Pole Dancing, Colonial Crafts Demos, Children's hands-on crafts, and Tours of Homestead and Gardens.

-The Hermitage has several announcements and events; Garden Docent training, an honoring for the creators of the Children's Touching Garden on May 17th: no work on May 20th due to childrens event . The Hermitage Tea's will begin on Thursday's starting in June. In July there will be a Children's Play Day. In August there is a Craft Fair. Please volunteer Tuesday and Wednesday beginning at 9:30.

-Thielke/Glen Rock Arboretum is celebrating a A Family Mother's Day, May 10, 2015:. Bring a picnic lunch, go on a scavenger hunt and take a StoryWalk, with the book, Bear and Bee.

-Docent volunteers for the Thielke/Glen Rock Arboretum are being recruited. Docents give educational talks, and act as tour guides for both children and adults at the Arboretum.

-Volunteer Days are held every Tuesdays and Saturdays, from 9 to 12, weather permitting.

Tours and Trips:

The MG garden tour may be postponed until we can determine how we handle any liability issues. There was also a concern that the gardens were a little too spread out and how do we handle the collection of donations, etc.

Programs:

Mays speaker is Katie Widell from NJ Meadowlands Commission on "Joke to Jewel"

Volunteers Records:

Nothing new to report at this time.

New Business: ?

Meeting adjourned at 7:15