

Master Gardeners of Bergen County Board of Directors Minutes for April 24, 2018

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

Present at the meeting: Joseph Cooper, Carolyn Gretchen, Donna Faustini, Dennis Gretchen, Terri Pegg, Melody Corcoran, Hank Annunziata, Josie Ko, Karen Pennell, Miriam Taub, Patrick Lull, Janet Schulz, Mark PENCHINAR, Karen Riede, Suzanne Danzig, Donna Karpel, Dorothy Penkalski, Smadar Shemmesh, Donna Dorgan

Presidents Report:

Many Earth Day celebrations are also not only planned, but MGofBC will have a very visual presence at several of them. Special thanks to Mark, our Outreach person, and all of you who signed up to help at these locations. We have your full support! Thank you!

- Joel Flagler met with Carolyn, Dennis and staff at the Veteran's Home on April 6th. We are still in planning stages due to very complicated schedules and a delayed spring, but Joel's enthusiasm and creative ideas were very well received. Dennis is developing a sketch of the garden.
- Draft procedures for de-listing sites were discussed with input from the Board. The edited copy is attached.
- MG of BC will honor our 5 year interval MG's in the month of May.
- Karen Pennell will be researching the possibility of adding a new pin to our collection.
- Our next meeting will begin outdoors from 3:00-4:30 at the Thielke Arboretum, 460 Doremus Ave., Glen Rock, for foraging. Then, our presenter will continue at our regular meeting, in Hackensack. Regular meeting time is 7:00 PM.
- Dr. Edith Wallace was presented with a certificate of achievement as a lifetime member. New candidates will be announced each year at the January meeting.
- It is projected that our new volunteer hrs. website may be up and running by May 11th.
- Our Facebook page is online. Please send anything to Patrick Lull for approval and posting.
- The annual June picnic will be at Pavilion 1, Van Saun Park on June 12th from 12:00 to 2:00. Rain or shine event.
- Please try to get all your announcements in by the 10th to Serpil and Smadar for the mid/month or to Janet and Miriam by the 25th for the Potting Shed.
- Josie Ko very graciously planned a trip and tour for us for May 29th. Check the Potting Shed for details

Vice President:

Nothing to report.

Recording Secretary:

Motion: Donna Karpel motioned to approve last month's minutes, Joseph Cooper seconded, and all were in favor.

Corresponding Secretary:

Smadar asked about e-mail use for correspondence, Joseph explained that in the past when members get too many e-mails they opt out of receiving them so we have to be careful about sending 'blasts'.

Carolyn asked about the use of emails for Outreach and any last-minute requests. Suggested it be sent to corresponding secretary after Carolyn's approval. Mark asked if we have an 'active' membership list and how many are there, and can we create a sub-list?

Treasurer's Report:

Opening Balance as of February 28, 2018.....\$12,720.70
Income: \$160.00
Expenses: \$56.11
Balance as of March 31, 2018.....\$12,824.59

***Motion:** Terri Pegg motioned that the treasurer's report be approved, Donna Karpel seconded and all were in favor.

Community Outreach Events and Volunteers:

1. On 4/21, Sat. and 4/22, Sun. the Northern Valley Earth Fair and the Ridgewood Daffodil Festival Earth Day Fair are scheduled. We are staffed and ready to go.
2. The following events are scheduled and staffed.
 - a. 4/28, Sat., Rutherford TreeFest in Lincoln Park.
 - b. 5/5, Sat. Ridgefield Park Earth Day/Green Fair.
 - c. 5/20, Sun. 5th Annual Overpeck Bergen County EarthFest. COI for Overpeck is in progress.

Garden Club Liaison:

Josie reported that most garden clubs are holding their plant sales. Some discussion regarding the Garden Club Tea. Members have mentioned that they have their own Tea. But Donna Faustini indicated that the MG Tea is more in depth and that garden clubs get more information on potential speakers. Josie will get a list of their speakers, so it can be discussed at the next MG Tea.

Class Liaison:

Class is going well.

Speakers Bureau:

Arnie was not present.

Writers Bureau:

Miriam suggested we eliminate this committee since there are no interested members.

Publicity:

Patrick created a MGofBG Facebook page using his Facebook. This will be mentioned in the Potting Shed. All posts must go through Patrick, but we can now put mid-month updates, Potting Shed, Outreach events and committee members posts on the page. Patrick will continue to work on Twitter, Instagram and Pinterest.

Hospitality:

MG Picnic is June 12th at Van Saun pavilion I from 12-2, rain or shine.

Membership:

Directory is complete and online and the last two checks came in last week.

Newsletter:

Still mailing newsletter to Mary Ann Hanna class of 2002.

Website:

MGofBC.org website updated sections include: The Homepage, Potting Shed, Meetings and Events, Forms.

The 2018 Directory has been uploaded as a PDF in "Membership Directory" It has been tested for downloading and printing. I made 15 copies for any members who don't have a printer.

Volunteer & Membership Portal Progress:

Section 4: Administrative page: We found security issues with its design, so we had to separate administrative privileges into three selectable options:

- 1) Add Members
- 2) See Passwords
- 3) Email Members

Only the Webmaster can see passwords and search for administrative access members.

We have to intergrade an outside email service provider. "MailChimp" will be the new provider. In conjunction with Federal anti-spam laws, all email will have to have an "opt-out" hyperlink at the end.

Discussed at the meeting; having and opt-in email for members who wish to receive outreach notifications

Rutgers Cooperative Extension:

-Rutgers University is seeking a Program Associate II for the Passaic County's Rutgers NJAES Cooperative Extension. Karen Riede has full job description if anyone is interested. New Brunswick Farmer's Market looking for full & part-time help, you can get the form from Karen.

-New Horticulture Therapy Program starting at the VA facility in Paramus with MG Board President Carolyn Gretchen and Dennis Gretchen spearheading this effort. Joel and the MG's will deliver some structured Hort Therapy activities once the season arrives. Hort therapy programs will continue at the Garfield Middle School (10th year, 5 sessions) and with the County Division of Disability. We will do 5 sessions for post-stroke seniors in Ridgewood and Englewood. Also doing a beautification project in Garfield.

-Thielke Arboretum Environmental Center's Grand Opening is this Friday, 4/27.

-County Ag Fair will be a great one. We are working with the county to deliver a great 2 day event with lots of ag/farmers markets, our MG Educational tent, plus 4-H with lots of animals. We need many more MG alumni to help with take-down this year. We struggled last year and that is not part of the plan. Please get involved and attend and we want to see alumni there.

-At Daffodil Day Karen Riede had someone approach her regarding becoming involved in the MG Association again.

RMGANJ:

Thank you for voting for the Awards for Excellence. The winners are Dania Cheddie and Janet Schulz. This will be announced at the May meeting

April 3, 2018 RMGANJ Meeting Summary:

MASTER GARDENER'S COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Nick Polanin reported that Passaic County has an opening for Master Gardener coordinator. He is working with Sussex to make the part time position full time and Warren County to get a full time senior program coordinator position. He reported that coordinators are sending in annual reports from 2017. The NJ Landscape and Nursery Association is holding a Spotted Lantern Fly meeting April 5. The Spotted Lantern Fly feeds on 70 different plants. It will be here soon since it is in Pennsylvania. The Department of Agriculture will be setting up a portal for reporting.

Conference title: "Plants -Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow", Saturday, October 6, 2018. There will be many changes this year that include: increasing the Continuing Education Credits, revamping the awards ceremony, offering official Rutgers trademark apparel for MG's at the Garden Market, eliminating the door prize piece of the schedule, instead, the winning numbers will be posted, and the winners can pick them up.

5, 10, 15,20 Pins are ordered and purchased through the state.

Sunshine:

Arnie had knee replacement and Dennis sent him a card.

Site Coordinator Liaison:

Melody would like to differentiate between Special Project and a site Special Project which is just a few hours.

Tours and Trips:

Josie and Jeanie Friedman will be stepping in to organize the May trip. On May 29 an organized tour of Hortulus Garden in PA will take place, the cost is \$45 per person.

Programs:

April meeting is a joint meeting with Passaic on "Medicinal Herbs of the Civil War" May's speaker is Paul Tappenden on "Foraging". Paul will be guiding a foraging tour at Thielke Arboretum beginning at 3:00-4:30. Following that Paul will speak at our meeting 7:30.

Volunteer Records:

Placing an article in the Potting Shed regarding MG pins.

Archivist:

Nothing to report.

Old Business:

* De-list Procedures Draft:

1. No volunteer hours reported for 3 years.
2. Site coordinator will check with site to see if there is an active site coordinator and if help is needed.
3. Determine from membership if a volunteer is available to coordinate and if members and students are available to volunteer.
4. Present information to Board for discussion and vote.

New Business:

Rutgers Fall Conference is October, 6, 2018, the theme is "Plants Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow". The cost is \$40.

We will be giving out the certificates to our "Lifetime" honorees. We will be researching pins for these honorees, perhaps the NJ Tree pin.

Report was sent out regarding the Long Horne Tick which is something to be concerned about.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57pm