

**Master Gardeners of Bergen County
Board of Directors Minutes for
September 24, 2019**

Meeting was called to order by Carolyn Gretchen at 5:45.

Present at the meeting: Carolyn Gretchen, Dennis Gretchen, Terri Pegg, Melody Corcoran, Hank Annunziata, Karen Pennell, Miriam Taub, Patrick Lull, Suzanne Danzig, Donna Karpel, Karen Riede, Marie Alfano, Herb Arbeiter

President's Report

All attendees must sign up for parking permits online for the Rutgers MG Fall Conference. The Bergen County Fall Festival was well attended in spite of the heat, unfortunately few county officers attended.

Vice President:

No report.

Recording Secretary:

***Motion:** Suzanne Danzig motioned to approve the minutes from both the May 28th and June 25th meetings as presented, Patrick Lull seconded, and all were in favor.

Corresponding Secretary:

Nothing to report

Treasurer's Report:

Melody presented the Treasurer's Report submitted by Bruce Walencyk.

Opening balance as of April 30, 2019.....	\$11,735.37
Income.....	\$250.00
Expenses.....	\$1,350.13
Closing balance as of August 31, 2019.....	\$10,635.24

***Motion:** Terri Pegg motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report, Suzanne Danzig seconded and all were in favor.

Rutgers Cooperative Extension:

Report from Joel:

-The Fair was a huge success. MG displays were awesome. Good agricultural representation with Abma Farm, Secor Farm, Stonehouse Nursery and MEVO Farm. 4-H did their displays, animal exhibits and more. Many thousands of visitors; free fireworks and carnival are added draws.

-MG Class of 2020 starts Oct 4; we will have around 18 students. The fall planting with the BC Environmental Council will be 10/25 and all MGs are welcome to come and help plant. It will be in a county park, yet to be determined, at 10:00am. Free lunch and tote bags too.

-Rutgers University President Barchi will retire effective July 1, 2020. He has been shepherd of major growth at Rutgers and NJAES. Also, our Dean of SEB, Robert Goodman, will retire effective July 1, 2020. He has been big supporter of Cooperative Extension, and a huge fan of Horticultural Therapy. We will miss him very much and await to see who the successors will be.

Happy Autumn to all.

Programs:

Donna reported that tonight's program is "The Wonder of Plants" by Bruce Crawford! Everyone loves Bruce, he is now charging \$300.

October is Anne Meore. Anne will be talking about Horticultural Therapy. She is an instructor at the NYBG and has worked in the greenhouse Hort therapy program at New Bridge Hospital in the past. She also created and heads the Hort therapy program at Good Samaritan Hospital in NY. Her fee is \$250.

I am working on finalizing November's speaker. Possibly a program on hydroponics and another speaker for 2020, Chuck Stead on "Animals in Your Back Yard".

Speakers Bureau:

Arnie was not present.

Volunteer Records:

Nothing to report.

Class Liaison:

Many class members attended the Mid-Atlantic Hort Therapy conference at Frelinghuysen Arboretum, was very good, highly recommends this conference which takes place quarterly. The Fall Fair was a great success with the great leadership of Karen Reide.

Community Outreach:

Karen Riede reported the following events were attended by MGs:

Saturday, 4/6 Bergen County Multicultural Family Fun, Van Saun Park, Paramus

Sunday, 4/14 Ridgewood Daffodil & Earth Day Festival.

Monday, 4/22 Earth Day event for BC Employee Wellness Program, 1 Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack.

Sunday, 4/28 Party for the Planet, BC Zoo, Van Saun Park, Paramus.

Saturday, 5/11 Ridgefield Park Earth Day, Ridgefield Park.

Sunday, 5/19 EarthFest at Overpeck, Ridgefield Park.

Wednesday, 7/31 BC Employee Wellness Program, 1 Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack. A

PowerPoint presentation on Basics of Gardening by MG Robyn Lowenthal.

Thursday, 9/5 Senior Citizen Picnic, Van Saun Park, Paramus.

Saturday & Sunday, 9/21 & 22, Fall Harvest Fair, Van Saun Park, Paramus.

Hospitality:

Reminder for members to sign up for monthly meeting refreshments.

Potting Shed:

All is running smoothly.

Membership:

Terri reported that dues are coming up.

Publicity:

No report.

RMGANJ:

Sunshine:

Dennis will send card to Jeffrey Chan as his wife has been hospitalized.

Trips and Tours:

We are waiting for Marie Alfano to graduate to become the official committee chair.

Garden Club Liaison:

Miriam reported that she is collecting information and will have a full 'Grapevine'

Site Liaison Coordinator:

Nothing to report.

Web site

Carolyn mentioned Joseph would like to do a presentation for board and class at one of the meetings.

Old business:

- Miriam and Donna are unable to attend the Conference therefore will present the award at our October meeting.
- Please mention in the newsletter that we continue to collect donations for the Center for Food Action at our meetings so please bring non-perishable food items to our meetings.
- Middle school students are looking for community service opportunities and inquired about the Veteran's Home.

New business:

- Karen Pennell attended the meeting, representing Janet Schulz who could not attend, and reported that the updated bylaws are almost complete. Edith will address the bylaws and appendix at the November meeting. We will look to start the November meeting at 5:00 to begin discussion.
- Herb Arbeiter will consider conducting a workshop at Theilke on making hypertufa pots, he will commit after holding a trial workshop for his class.
- Janet Schulz will be heading up the Nominating Committee along with Karen Pennell and Lida Gelman and will present the recommended slate of officers at our next meeting.

Meeting adjourned 6:42