

Master Gardener Foundation of Washington State
Board Meeting
Minutes of April 5, 2008

The meeting at the Pierce County Demo Garden in Puyallup, Washington was called to order at 10:13 a.m. by Bill Havens, President.

Those in attendance were:

Officers and Representatives: Bill Havens, President; Carolyn Brand, Secretary; Larry Davis, Metro Region VP; Stan Lundgaard, NE Region VP; Roland Malan, Kitsap County Rep; Betty Ryan, Pierce County Rep; Mary Shane, Pacific-Grays Harbor County Rep; Patty Brown, Lewis County Rep; Martha Clatterbaugh, Snohomish County Rep; Bill Longnecker, Thurston County Rep; Janet Camarata, Kittitas County Rep. Guests: Nicole Martini, Pierce County Coordinator.

Each participant was asked to introduce themselves and give a brief description of some activities:

- Carolyn Brand, Secretary: Working on mentor presentation for Annual Conference. She suggested the possibility of a mentoring handbook.
- Roland Malan, Kitsap County Rep: Working on the 2010 Calendar. They made \$20,000 on their calendar last year. They will use an old WWII pinup layout. Bill Havens suggested sharing this project in *Seeds for Thought*.
- Betty Ryan, Pierce County Rep: Plant Sale is May 10-12th. The new Demo Garden in Gig Harbor is moving along. The new construction will start within the next two months.
- Larry Davis, Metro Region VP: Chairman of Master Gardener of the Year Award. Nominees are: Jeanette Stehr Green, Clallam; Ray Ethridge, Kitsap; Chris Bailey, Benton-Franklin; Diana Pieti, Yakima; Wally Prestbo, King and Larry Owens, Pierce. Plant Sale is May 3-4th with a pre-sale on May 2nd.
- Mary Shane, Pacific-Grays Harbor Rep: May Home and Garden Show is coming up. There will also be a garden tour in July. Working on the training process. They will be part of the pilot program for online training.
- Patty Brown, Lewis Rep: Kelly Ward is new Coordinator. She was a Master Gardener for three years before taking on the position. This is a very busy time. Home and Garden Show was last week. A new education series has been very successful.
- Stan Lundgaard: NW Region VP: Plant Sale is May 3rd.
- Martha Clatterbaugh, Snohomish Rep: Scholarship Chairperson. Counties that have applied: Snohomish, Cowlitz, Skagit, and Condarey. Deadline is April 12th. I am looking at the possibility of revising the guidelines.
- Bill Longnecker, Thurston Rep: Gardens are opening so we are very busy. The Foundation Plant Sale is May 16th. We have made \$15,000 on the compost bin project. This is another topic we could benefit from in the *Seeds for Thought*.
- Janet Camarata, Kittitas Rep: They are expanding The Healing Garden at a local hospital. The plant sale is in May. They are currently halfway through the new training program which has seven trainees.

TREASURER'S REPORT: No report. Sharon was not present.

MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2008: Carolyn Brand

Minutes were e-mailed to all board members. Two corrections were received. Minutes were approved as corrected.

2008 CONFERENCE

Awards

- Service Award: Mary Shane proposed the name of the award be changed to The Ed LaCrosse Award for Outstanding Service. Ed approves of this title. **Motion made by Larry Davis to change the name to The Ed LaCrosse Award for Outstanding Service. Betty second. Motion carries.**
- Scholarship Awards: Martha Clatterbaugh stated that nominations have been very slow this year. We only have nominations from four counties. Many schools have suggested that the nomination process should be earlier in the year. It was suggested that we need to revise the scholarship guidelines. A website with information and applications would be helpful. Martha will work on this. Someone needs to develop an information sheet that can be posted at high schools so students are aware of the opportunity.
- Media Award: Ed Hume and Cisco will pick the winner. Paul James of HGTV gives out a lot of information on the start up of the Master Gardener Program in Washington State. Ed LaCrosse will present the award.
- Master Gardener of the Year Award: Every nominee will be recognized. Information will be passed on to the newspapers. The winner will get a subscription to the MG Magazine. The MG Magazine will pay for the plaque and feature a picture on back cover of the magazine to recognize the winner. This has not been confirmed. They will not participate in the selection of the winner. Nominees are Jeanett Stehr Green, Clallam; Ray Ethridge, Kitsap; Chris Bailey, Benton Franklin; Diana Pieti, Yakima; Wally Prestbo, King; and Larry Owens, Pierce.

Registration Bag - Mary Shane says we have 350-375 Bags. There should be about 12-14 items per bag. Ten interns from Jefferson Cty will help with stuffing bags. There are now ~ 150 registrations.

Housing - There are no houses left. A few dorm rooms are still available.

Country Store - Pierce County will not be able to have a separate room for the book sales. There will be one table with books in the Country Store. Bill Havens also has books and other items **left over from the Online Store. Bill Longnecker has good ideas on pricing and will assist in the final pricing of the items.** This year there will be one table for cash or checks and one table for credit cards. Each County will have a code number. An additional number can be used as an inventory number. King County did very well with used books last year.

Posters - Bill Havens showed what the poster would look like. At the bottom of the poster: Master Gardener 35th Anniversary, Founded by Washington State University in 1973, and the WSU Logo. The cost of an 11x17 poster is \$0.70. Cost and distribution information will be sent out by email. We will give each **registered** person a copy of the poster **at the Annual Conference**. People can frame this size if they want. With distribution to attendees and officials, the cost will be under \$1000.00. Roland Malan voiced some concerns that government officials that would receive these posters might question the amount of money spent on preparing the poster. Why should they give us money if we are spending it in this manner? Bill Longnecker suggested that we put in the letter to the officials that this project is funded by the Foundation, not the program, to make them aware of the 35th Celebration. Roland suggested we could use this as a fundraiser. Bill Longnecker suggested that we print an additional 100 **posters** for sale in the Country Store at \$2.50 each. Martha asked if we could have a second printing if needed. **Martha Clatterbaugh moved that we print an additional 100 posters as proposed and add 100 copies for sale at the Country Store. The motion passed.**

Break for Lunch at 12:00 and resume meeting at 12:30 PM.

Raffle - Larry Davis is still working on big donations. He has two weekends on the lake which are valued at \$300.00 each. Items over \$50.00 may be part of the Silent Auction. Let Carol know if your items are over \$50.00. We also need better record keeping so people know who has given what.

Letter of Invitation - List from the **30th Anniversary Committee provided the** names that have something to do with the first class. William and Judy Scheer, Dr. David Gibby and Lisa, Sr., Arlen Davison and Nancy, Dr. George Pinyuh and Susie, Sharon Collman, Mrs, Sharon Wesenberg, Nancy Hibbing and Roger (Program Assistant to Bill Scheer). Bill Taylor, E. **White** Smith, Forrest Thompson, and Ed Hume are all still active. Don Tapio was also involved **in the early classes**. WSU has not **provided information regarding** those involved in the first program. We do not have a complete list. It is amazing that we still have active MG's from the first class. **We need to provide** personal communication with these people. We need to personally invite them, then send them a letter. Invite them to the breakfast or awards banquet. We need to honor these people! Is there anyone else who was involved in the first program? How can we get this information? Nicole suggested that the letter should come from the WSU. We also need to check with Don Tapio and Elaine Anderson if they have any additional information. This information should be sent to Toni. Bill will continue to work on this. Bill Longnecker suggested we send a copy of the 2003 letter to help WSU put the letter together. Mary Shane and Carolyn Brand will help with personal invitations to first year members.

Letters of Invitation to Government Officials - There is a good chance the Governor and some County Council members will be present. Bill Havens has talked to the Governor. Bill sent this info to WSU and they **have not had time to respond**. The fact that this is an election year could have an impact. Letters will go out to the Governor, as

well as other government officials. In 2003, we heard from the Secretary of Agriculture. Our objective is to see that they get this information so they are aware of the importance of what we do and the funds they provide us. Linda proclaimed May 12th as Master Gardener Week. **Toni has sent a request to the Governor to make an official proclamation.** It would also be nice to have County recognition. We do not expect a lot of the officials to attend but we can get feedback related to things happening in the program.

Toni: Who should she invite: Governor, two State Senators, Lieutenant Governor, County Councils from Pierce, King and Spokane Counties. Linda Fox to give an address recognizing first year MG's. Roland suggested we should be careful of what we ask for. How many will come? How many will want to give a talk? The benefit from our efforts to have officials respond to our letters is to make more officials aware of the work of the Master Gardeners!

2009 CONFERENCE

Scheduled date has not been announced. The date projected to be mid to late September.

2010 CONFERENCE

No proposal from southern part of State. Lewis County has expressed some interest. Clark County is a possibility.

INFORMATION FROM WSU

Toni Fitzgerald is doing a great job with help on the website.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communication

1. Better communications on Website.
2. *Seeds for Thought*
 - Our purpose is to provide communication.
 - Goals are to improve communication county-to-county across the State.
 - Distribution is primarily through Chris by e-mail. We need better guidelines on a consistency for further distribution.
 - Content also needs further information on format. We encourage reports on successful endeavors and more horticultural information. Nicole Martini suggested we include news articles on MG's like the one in the News Tribune on Roof Top Gardening. List contributors from Friends of Foundation only one time per year. It would also be a good idea to have coordinators write articles.
 - Routing information: Lee Haugen, the editor, edits information then sends to Bill and Chris for review. This is a quarterly publication with a deadline of 15 days before release.
 - Growth has been impressive.
 - Larry asked if we are still doing advertisements for Friends of the Foundation.

- It was highly recommended that we need Lee to develop guidelines so we are more organized. This needs to include (but not limited to) the following:
 - How often is it published?
 - Who is responsible (VPs or County reps) for sending information to the editor?
 - Who does the editing?
 - Deadlines
 - Format
 - Distribution

3. South King County Seminar the end of April.

OLD BUSINESS

MOA - The Board needs to read the MOA and send comments on any concerns.

Nominations - **We need to adjust the terms of officers so there is a rotation that provides continuity of experience on the Board.** Larry Davis is willing to continue as Metro Region VP.

Speakers - Stan asked if all speakers were in place. Changes can occur in speakers even at the last minute. Anyone that has ideas for speakers, please share with Sharon. Changes happen!

Roland Malan requested support to setup a donated hothouse at a school. How do we proceed with requests like this? Is there a procedure in place? Requests like this have to be considered on an individual basis.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM.

Carolyn Brand, Secretary