

**Master Gardener Board  
July 26, 2007 Meeting Notes**

**Present:** Dave Banks, Charlie Clapper , Anne Odle, Art Gustafson, Barbara Gustafson, Rich Strenkowski, Sarah Dougherty, Pat Crowe, Jean Winters, Mary Ann Kimminau, Leanne DuBois

**Absent:** Lynn Flood, Judy Hansen

Dave opened the meeting at 11:15 He referenced the healthy agenda he distributed on 7/25 (HO #1) and indicated that if certain agenda items were surfaced and time constraints prevented a full discussion, they would be addressed at future meetings.

**Reports:**

**Anne/VMGA - Operation Rejuvenation** – will take place in October. Activity will be 5 days long. Deposit of \$100 for those interested is requested. Buses will leave from Richmond & Wburg. Dave Close does not have firm price for participants. Refer to N/L for supplemental info. More details will be forthcoming from Dave/Anne.

**MG College:**

- **Three JCCW MGs (Anne Nielson, Angela Cingale & Carol Fryer) attended.**

- Barbara reported that Kari Abbott received an award for the best children's exhibit. It was proposed that her display be set up display for the August 2 mtg and that an appropriate kudo be given to Kari during the mtg.

Responsible: Anne Odle

**MG Awards /Nomination Process**

**Handout #2**

Discussion indicated that no complaints about the awards process were noted and that positive comments were received.

**Decisions:**

- awards be continued
- January dinner be called the *Annual Awards Dinner* (which includes intern graduation).

- **Recommendations:**

- 07 committee be in place by 10/15;

- Awards 2006 committee be approached about serving for an additional year. (Minouche Robinson, Milt Berube, Lise Kline & Lynn Flood on 06 committee)

Issues:

- additional award (**point needs additional detail**)
- can the same individual receive an award two years in a row?
- Perhaps those who received awards last year, would participate on the committee this year?

Responsible/Follow-up: Dave

**Project and Program Chair Vacancies: Publicity, Landscape Love, Seeds of Learning, Historian, State Recorder:**

**Publicity:** Discussion of whether one or two (one for photographs and one for writing), Charlie said he had a few ideas for potential candidates. Anne will speak to Alice re: accuracy/updating of job description. Alice & Leanne will train new publicity leads.

**Landscape Love:** Rich reported that he is transitioning the leadership for Landscape Love to Libby Hedstrom & Leslie Meyer and that Jerry Babski will assume Leslie's position when she moves in 08.

**State recorder** – Jarl Christiansen has volunteered. Per Art, there are data input issues; one issue (that of inputting data for multiple occurrences of the same activity rather than inputting the same number several times) has been resolved by Dave Close.

**SOL** – need co-chair. Mary Ann believes two are needed to manage the project. Clients do not want SOL to be conducted in the fall, but rather in the spring.

**Chair/Speakers Bureau** – Greg would like to transition to a new person. He will train the incumbent(s).

Issues:

- Some MGs may be intimidated when asked to assume leadership of a project or program that has functioned successfully for some time.
- Do we need a standing committee to deal with this?
- Do we assign interns or allow them to pick?
- Should the term of ofc. be relative to the project?
- Over-arching issue: succession planning for various projects.

**Historian** - Janie Fellowes, with the help of Sally Sissel, Ailene Bartlett and Barbara Gustafson, has been the Historian since its inception in 2003. Records from our beginnings through June 2005 have been collected, but still need organizing. Do

records need to be continued-and, if so, in what form?

### **Fall MG Picnic at Cathy Ripley's Home:**

Need project chair and a date!

We have helpers: Mary Ann will make hostess gift. Anne and Barbara will help. Sarah will contact class members from 06 class to work on this effort. Barbara will contact Cathy and establish date.

### **Annual Awards Banquet:**

Unitarian church booked for January 10, 2008.

Need speaker? No

Combine intern graduation with annual awards presentation.

### **MG Board organization structure – deferred.**

**Mobile Master Gardener project:** VP for admin. – deferred for later discussion

**VP for youth:** - needs to be developed – defer discussion to later board mtg. devoted to topic. Defer other youth programs – action item for August

**Schedule for MG board mtgs.** – third Friday at 9 AM. in HHS building. Dave to follow up to ensure reservations have been made. HHSBldg. Contact: **Carol Humble (259-3100)**

Next meeting will be held on August 17 @ 9 AM.

### **PROJECTS:**

#### **New Kent**

- Some projects need to be tailored to NK; all must be open to all MGs
- Projects include NK help desk, Farmers' Market (in future) and Learning Garden.
- Jeannie Gilman is NK liaison

Action item: NK demo garden needs to be written up as a project for approval. This will be tasked to Jeannie Gilman.

Issue: shall New Kent projects be tallied with JC projects or separately? Which count as core projects? See below for further discussion.

**Core hours** – Action Mary Liz, **Linda Lucas** and Judy review/make decisions.

## **Incredible Edibles**

- increased interest in this project
- exploring partnership with WIC program,
- Outside core, consideration as core project needs to be explored.
- Need estimate for a sign – Leanne and Barbara to work on this. If cost is \$100/less, OK to spend, return to board if cost of sign exceeds \$100.
- Defer discussion of Moving Incredible Edibles to core hours for this year until a later date.

**Habitat for Humanity** – Cindy Halliday needs to write up a project, some follow-up at Apryl's Place garden needs to take place. Art & Anne offered to help. Follow-up on project needs to take place to determine success or failure. In future, MGs need to work locally with housing partnerships. Jarl works for housing partnerships.

## **Mobile Master Gardener Project:**

Dennis Mehigan has prepared a draft document and would like to do a video.

Discussion of need for a portable outreach program. Target audience and messages need to be defined.

Project relative to speakers' bureau discussed. Where to place? Is this a new communication project? Depending on group/focus, explore linkage between this and speakers' bureau.

Linkage to website.

Judy – point person.

Dennis needs to flesh concept out, return to board in Sept-Oct. with a detailed concept for first year operation.

Who will coordinate with Judy & Dennis?

**Project Chair mtg.** – Judy and Leanne need to schedule. Frequency between semi-annual and quarterly needs to be considered.

**Miscellaneous efforts:** Leanne receives calls from women's prison, Matoaka elementary school, etc How to handle, how can Leanne hand these requests off? We need a process in which consultant MGs meet with requestors in the community to gather information and evaluate proposed effort for compatibility with MG goals/objectives. Additionally, we need an input mechanism for new projects, an initiative group to bring recommendations to board. A checklist needs to be developed that could be given to requestors to assist in the evaluation of their effort. Anne and Barbara – develop e-mail questionnaire as a starting point.

## **Botanical Garden**

*Youth Tours in the Ellipse Garden – Anne Nielson/Becky Morgan*

Handout #3

- MG and BG boards need to talk

- Another option: explore a learning garden at WBG.
- Note: continued maintenance as was proposed for perennial garden is not an MG activity.
- This must be coordinated through 4H
- Needs a risk management section added.

**Thomas Nelson partnership** may be explored. (TNCC site for learning garden and as site for MG classes. Board will consider in the future.

## **Training:**

### *2008 Class*

Mary Liz Sadler will head up this year's class. She plans to meet with Leanne during week of July 30.

- Considerations for revisions to 08 class: Hold Pruning session onsite. Interview prospective students? Hold Info fair earlier or at all? Note: Linda is holding a wrap up session for class of 07.

**MG advanced training** (Lynn's list) – add to webpage and in n/l when complete. Responsible - Lynn

**Calendar of training and key events** – add to web page which needs a calendar & add to newsletter/discuss with Lise

**MG Monthly Programs** – Carol Fryer to work with Jean on program developing, perhaps involving a sub committee. Board held a brief discussion of programs, various vendors, & other MG presentations. Jean and Carol will also explore presentations by our Speakers' Bureau for monthly programs. OKed Jean's general direction. Budget - \$500.

**Job descriptions** – 7/05 version – most current? Review and discuss this material at later meeting.

**Policy of selling at the library.** – don't ask

**Laptop for Farmers' Market** – now \$3k – previously approved by membership at lower cost? Needs to be re-approved by membership.

**Leanne – helpline- ramp up.** ([additional details here?](#))

**2008 Plant Sale** – Becky and Barbara will co-chair.

- Will meet in Sept/Oct.
- Topic needs to be added to agenda at future MG mtg.,
- Noted growth of plant sale proceeds.

- Issue: Vendor selling at our plant sale – Leanne OK with this. Need to consider how to fairly select vendor(s).

**Issue: need to follow up on grants provided through neighborhood connections to see how \$ was used and whether publicity would be appropriate.** Rich will follow up,

**Mission/Goals** – defer discussion to a future meeting. Need to wrap up May discussion.

**NOTES:**

Next MG Board meeting – August 17 @ 9 am – HHS Building

Pat will be on vacation in August. Sarah will take notes at 8/2 MG meeting.