

**JCCW/ Master Gardeners Board Meeting  
17 April, 2009**

**Present:** D. Banks, C.Clapper, S. Dougherty, C. Fryer, J. Giffin, D. Heath, P. Janot, J. Millin, J. and N. Pressly, L. Wever

**Speakers:** S. Giandomenico, J. Gross

**Membership Issues, S. Giandomenico**

Susan reported that the membership list will be finalized by and a new roster developed by May 1. She and Sarah Dougherty have been talking to inactive members. There is a two-year limit to inactive status during which time inactive members continue to pay dues. We could consider extending that status beyond two years.

**Plant Sale, D. Secrist and S. Giandomenico**

Susan reported that a color Plant Sale ad will appear in the Gazette on Wednesday and Saturday preceding the sale on April 25. Volunteers and those transporting plants are being scheduled and this information forwarded to the membership prior to the sale. Donations of plant material from the membership is smaller than in the past. Plant Sale prices will begin at \$3.00. The plants acquired from Atlantic Growers are of excellent stock and there is confidence about the pricing and quality of everything being sold. Flyers are available and everyone is encouraged to distribute them widely in the community. There is a need for someone to take over birdhouse sales. Board members are encouraged to attend the pre sale for members on Friday April 24 from 1 until 3:00 or on Thurs. April 23 from 1 until 3:00 at the staging area.

**Extension Agent Report, D. Heath**

Doris reported that funding for Turf Love has run into some opposition from the county board. J. Horn advised her that S. Wanner was not supportive of funding the program in the present financial climate. The service authority proposed that \$28,000 was needed but that only \$12,500 was obtained; in addition, that figure will be reduced by 20% after administrative costs have been subtracted by Virginia Tech. She will attempt to keep it within the county to obtain the whole \$12,500, but that raises the question about whom Bob Winter would report to. In any case, program fees will need to be raised with the hope that fees would enable the program to be self-sustaining.

The possibility of JCC getting a new Agricultural Agent will be better after 2010. Increased citizen encouragement is needed to raise the need to fill the vacancy.

## **VP Administration Report – J, Giffin**

John reported that there are vacancies in Publicity and in State Recorder. It would be beneficial to make reports to the state but the technology is not compatible. Logo clothing is being managed by S. Giandomenico

The hours letter dated in April and mailed in July needs closure on membership hours for last year.

Even though state records have not been kept up-dated, there is a question of whether it would be best to pick up where we are in 2009 and not worry about the lost time. The Presslys will follow up. We will table, for now, the offer of help in this area by Barb Foley. .

## **VP Projects – J. Millin**

Jeanne reported that she is still not getting reports from all project chairs, but recognizes that this is a process that was recently changed. She is trying to get project news to the newsletter. The Help Desk needs new leadership

D. Banks proposed new organization for projects:

- E (external) VP Jeanne Millin
- I (internal) VP Carol Fryer
- A (administrative) VP John Giffin

Maintenance would be the duty of each VP and existing projects would be renumbered. The 2009 list would be posted.

Pheasant Run Homeowners Association has requested a presentation from either Anne Nielsen for *Landscape Love*, or Minouche Robinson of *Merrimac Detention Center*.

### **Specific projects:**

Merrimac Detention Center has been adopted formally and will now be identified as E36.

Community Gardens – WJC Schools are proposing, funded through their SHIP program by the Williamsburg Community Health Association, that community gardens be developed at elementary schools. The Master Gardener Association will be involved only in an advisory role. At present James River Elementary School will sponsor one garden with the assistance of their After School Program.

**VP Education** Carol Fryer

The Class of 09 has completed its class sessions and are beginning to work on the volunteer hours. The hours remain the same as recent classes: Community Outreach and Electives -50 hours, Help Desk - 20 hours.

The speaker for the May 7 general meeting will be Libby Oliver.

Botanical Garden – Helen Hamilton has suggested that the Botanical Garden become formally recognized as a Master Gardener project. VPs will meet with Charlie Clapper to discuss this as a possibility, keeping in mind that the primary mission of MG is education and not simply work projects.

All equipment manuals should be sent to John Giffin to be organized and kept in one location.

The MG poster will be sold at the Plant Sale for \$10.00 each.

A portable mike is available for speakers to use at general meetings. This is in response to some members who have difficulty hearing at meetings.

Five Master Gardeners will be involved in Earth Day activities at Waller Mill Park.

Risk Management training will be conducted by Jeremy Johnson at the May general meeting.

**Treasurer's Report – S. Dougherty**

General Account Balance as of 4/17/09	\$1838.04
March receipts	480.00
March expenditures	712.52
April receipts	0
April expenditures	1717.48
Checks/cash to be deposited	165.00
Training Account Balance	2253.66
Tree Stewards:	806.26
Water Stewards	323.37

Total amount of dues collected as of April 1, 2009	\$2,660.00
Delinquent dues	420.00

The issue of delinquent dues may be eased by asking those who are inactive to continue to pay dues.

A safe deposit box will be needed to store documents and will be handled by the incoming board.

The present treasurer requested that the books be audited before the new treasurer is in place.

### **VMGA**

The \$100.00 scholarship for MG College 2009 will need to be announced in the next newsletter. Interns who have completed their hours will be eligible to attend. Carol will investigate which interns will be eligible.

### **IRS 501 (c)3 Filing** Jack Gross

Bylaws relating to the filing have been changed. Everything is ready to be submitted, but the scrutiny is severe and we should expect to be questioned. Current board members signed the documents. Dave Banks will complete a cover letter and will act as power of attorney.

**Pending List** was not reviewed.

**Board Transition** The old and new boards will review job descriptions, the mission statement, goals, and by laws as part of the transition

The next board meeting will be held May 22 at 9:00 at the HHS Conference Room

Submitted by: Pat Janot  
Acting Secretary

