

Hanover Master Gardener Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Hanover Evangelical Friends Church
October 16, 2017

Minutes

President Doris Gullotta called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., and confirmed a quorum.

The reading of the minutes for the September 18, 2017, BOD meeting was waived. The minutes were approved as previously distributed by email.

Pat Reyes, Treasurer, was not able to attend. Wayne Bryant presented the financial report through September 30, 2017. The report was accepted, pending audit.

Laura Maxey-Nay, VCE/HMG, reported that the Hanover Board of Supervisors have offered to “lease” part of the property next to the Parks and Recreation Building to the HMGA for a demonstration garden. The “lease” would be for a period of two years and not allow any permanent structures. It was suggested that this response by the County was a creative way to say no to the Demonstration Garden project. The BOD discussed partnering with the YMCA, who had previously expressed an interest in working with the MGs. Laura said their interest was a community-type vegetable garden.

Laura stated that Betty Jane Hughes has written a policy for all MG presentations, which Laura will review and post on VMS. Laura has contacted other MG units about their home visit policies and procedures. She is compiling the information and will write a policy for the Hanover MGs. She stated that there will be a Strategic Planning meeting on October 17, to discuss the HMGA project list and the new MG volunteer hour reporting to begin on January 1, 2018. There will be an Advanced MG training course on November 13. Details are on VMS.

Angelette Pryor, Volunteer Coordinator, reported that the Open House for potential 2018 Hanover MG trainees was held on October 11, in Ashland. She stated that 12 people expressed interest before the Open House. Eight people applied and were interviewed during the event. Two potential trainees contacted Angelette to say they had missed the Open House, but were still interested in applying. She asked everyone to spread the word and encourage more people to apply to become MGs. Information about becoming a MG is available from the VCE office, our website, and on our Facebook page. Hanover, Henrico, Chesterfield, Powhatan/Goochland, Richmond City, Prince George, and Dinwiddie are joining together to showcase MGs in Central Virginia and to recruit for potential trainees at a regional MG Open House on October 21, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., at Maymont. There will also be a Fall Fellowship Festival on October 21, from 9:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., at the Hanover County Courts Complex. Angelette stated that mandatory training for all MG, 4H, and other community volunteers will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on October 27, at Lee Davis HS auditorium.

Doris stated that she hopes to create more interest and encourage volunteers for projects at a Project Fair meeting in January. Angelette suggested it be held on a night to coincide with the training class. The BOD discussed having the Project Fair near or at the end of the MG training. The BOD decided on March 29, the night of the last training class. Juanita Wrenn will request the date at the HEFC.

Buz Sawyer, Plant Clinics, reported that things had been going well until last week. The plant clinic scheduled in Beaverdam had to be cancelled for lack of volunteers. The last plant clinic of the season will be on October 21. Buz will schedule a meeting in November to review the clinics and participation. The committee will plan the 2018 schedule at a meeting in January or February. He thanked everyone that helped make 2017 a success.

Susie Knuth, Member Meetings, reminded members that Peggy Singlemann will speak at the General Membership Meeting on December 4.

Betty Jane Hughes, Bylaws Committee, stated that she has received the last of the information she needed from the other members of the committee and has begun working on the revisions.

Beckey Watson, HMGA Grant Program, was unable to attend. Doris reported a meeting was held to discuss some of the concerns and suggestions Beckey has for the program (see attachment). Beckey has offered to continue to chair the committee for 2018. The group also suggested changing the name of the committee, having applications available on the website, and reviewing and approving applications more often. The BOD suggested offering projects and ideas that already meet the requirements for approval. Christy Brennan stated that Beaverdam Elementary School has created the Beaverdam Environmental Protection Agency Society Club for the students and that the Committee could encourage other schools to start similar clubs where HMGA might provide or pay for speakers. Laura said that she had met with Soil & Water to start an Ecology Club (see attached excerpt from the Beaverdam PTA Newsletter) to groom high school students to compete in the [Envirothon](#).

Betty Jane Hughes, Communications, reported that she has been making changes and updates to our website and encountered some concerns (see attached). She has purchased a backup service for \$60.00 for the next 28 months. She also recommended purchase of a firewall and daily scanning protection for \$384.00 for 24 months. A motion to approve those expenses was seconded and approved.

Ed Wall, HGS, reported that 4 locations have been scheduled for HGS classes for 2018, and 4 new topics are planned. He said Kristy Gahn will coordinate the classes for Beaverdam and Ashland. He will coordinate the classes in Atlee and Mechanicsville. Angelette said she would provide a list of names of the MGs in each area so Ed might contact them about volunteering to host some of the classes. Ed stated that two thirds of the classes are already listed on VMS; the rest will be posted soon. He stated that Richard Nunnally will give a “plug” in his column about the Hanover HGS program and classes.

Christy Brennan, State Fair, reported that the MG booth at the State Fair went okay. There were two scheduling SNAFUs, but that is not uncommon. There were leftover promotional items that can be used at future plant clinics. The butterfly posters were given to other MG units and to teachers.

Christy Brennan, VMGA, reported that the VMGA met on October 14, at the Eastern Shore AREC in Painter, Virginia. She announced that VCE is planning an administrative realignment. There are currently three distinct programs: 4-H, ANR, and Food and Community Service. This will shift to two programs: Youth, Family and Health, and Economy, Community and Food. The VMG program and leadership will remain unchanged, and be included in the ECF program. For more details go to: <http://www.intra.ext.vt.edu/directories/adminrealign.html>. Christy stated that the November 9, Development Training had sold out, but might be moved to a larger facility and reopened. She said the 2018 Master Gardener College will be held June 21-24, 2018, and the program for advanced training will be Tree Stewardship. She announced the 2019 International MG College will be held in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, and VMGA will host the 2021 International MG college in Norfolk, Virginia.

Betty Jane Hughes, Plant Sale, inquired about a fall potting party. Several members agreed that it would be a good idea. Betty Jane will check with Pat Reyes to see if she would host it at her house on November 4.

Doris stated that the next BOD meeting is scheduled for November 20, at the HEFC. The October meeting of the HMGA Board of Directors was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Present: Doris Gullotta, Susie Knuth, Wayne Bryant, Betty Jane Hughes, Angelette Pryor, Linda Hazelwood, Christy Brennan, Emily Gianfortoni, Buz Sawyer, Laura Maxey-Nay, Juanita Wrenn, and Ed Wall. The attendance sheet will be attached to the file copy of these minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

**Wayne Bryant
Secretary**



**HMGA Grants
Program.pdf**



HMGA Website.docx



**Beaverdam
Environmental Protect**