

Hanover Master Gardener Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Hanover Extension Grounds
September 21, 2020

Minutes

Pattie Bland, President, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m., and confirmed a quorum.

The reading of the minutes of the August 17, 2020, Board of Directors meeting was waived. The minutes were approved as previously distributed.

Pat Reyes, Treasurer, presented the financial report through August. The financial report was accepted, pending review, and will be attached to the file copy of these minutes.

Laura Maxey-Nay, VCE/ANR, reported that Phase 3 guidelines for all volunteer activities are still in effect.

Angelette Pryor, Volunteer Coordinator, reported that Goochland-Powhatan has joined Hanover, Henrico, Chesterfield, and the City of Richmond MG units in efforts to offer 2021 MG training via Zoom. Classes will be recorded so that they may be viewed when convenient to the trainees. Posters have been made and fliers are being distributed to promote the MG course. Pattie stated that there will be a meeting of the MG Training Class Committee on Wednesday. Angelette reported that HGS presentations are being viewed “live” by as many as 30 people. Recordings have received as many as 500 views. She said new topics and speakers are needed for October. Angelette said that some of the education hours from MG College can be used in 2021. “Native Plants for Virginia’s Capital Region” guides have been placed outside of the Extension Office door for the public. Angelette said that she has received one grant request that will be forwarded to the Grants committee.

Ginny Nicholas, HMGA Meetings, reported that Betty Jane Hughes is scheduled to speak at the October 5 Member-led meeting on “Working with the Public.” The BOD discussed holding the meetings in person. The BOD decided to give it a try on October 5 and to gauge the response. Angelette will present milestone awards and volunteer appreciation gifts. Marcie Townsend will speak at the November 2 Member-led meeting on the “Potager Gardens.” Dave Slack from the Department of Forestry will speak on “Native Trees and Their Benefit to Wildlife” at the December 3 General Membership meeting. Ginny is coordinating with Angelette to schedule an MG meeting in January for Civil Rights and Risk Management training. Ginny reported she is working to confirm meeting dates for 2021 and submit them to the HFEC for approval. The date for the Spring Plant sale, Saturday, April 17 (with set-up on Friday, April 16) was agreed to by the BOD. Betty Jane will send out a note to all MGs to remind them to pot up extra plants for the sale when dividing this fall.

Betty Jane Hughes, Communications, put together a communications SOP and sent it to Val Kish, Pattie Bland, and Wayne Bryant for their input. She has added Julie Givler and will add Haylie Zapantis. Angelette stated that Haylie Zapantis is close to launching an Instagram account for the HMGA and linking it to the Facebook page. Betty Jane is reviewing the responses to the SOP that she received. Betty Jane stated that Doris Gullotta has been added as a back-up on the website.

Val Kish, Help Desk, was not in attendance. She reported, through Pattie, that the remote Help Desk is receiving inquiries. Val is working on a program for interns on Help Desk questions and responses.

Susan Doran, Plant Clinics, stated that since all scheduled PCs have been canceled, she had nothing to report. Jane White volunteered to work a PC at the Ashland Farmers' Markets to promote the MG Training Classes.

Doris Gullotta, Scotchtown, reported that during a workday at the gardens, volunteers removed the Japanese hollies and replaced them with native hydrangeas. An additional day was spent cleaning up and planting some fall vegetables. She will send out a list of plants needed for the gardens and schedule another clean-up and put-to-bed date.

Doris, Nominating Committee Chair, stated that elections will most likely have to be done electronically this year. The committee has sent out a request to all HMGA members for nominations and/or recommendations of members to serve on the Board. Nominations are open until October 15. The committee will submit a recommended slate of candidates to the BOD in November.

Christy Brennan, VMGA, sent her report to Pattie:

- Fern Campbell, Albemarle/Charlottesville, is looking for input about setting up a MG mentors' program. Pattie will ask Lisa Willis to contact Fern.
- Devon Johnson will be at the October 10 VMGA Zoom meeting. The focus will be on using the Bedford modules for training new MGs or using training modules supplied by the VMS system.
- VMGA merchandise sales are on hold during an audit.
- VMGA is searching for volunteers to fill the positions of Endowment Fund Chair and Master Gardener Gear Sales Chair.
- Leadership Development Series sessions (CE) are being offered to all MGs beginning October 1. For more details on each session and to access the registration link go to:
<https://mastergardener.ext.vt.edu/current-resources/leadership/>

The Board was reminded that the next BOD meeting will be on October 19, 2020. The September 21, 2020, meeting of the HMGA Board of Directors was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

Present: Pattie Bland, Ginny Nicholas, Pat Reyes, Wayne Bryant, Doris Gullotta, Linda Hazelwood, Betty Jane Hughes, Lisa Willis, Julie Givler, Jane White, Angelette Pryor, Laura Maxey-Nay, and Susan Doran. The sign-in sheet will be attached to the file copy of these minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Bryant
Secretary