

Hanover Master Gardener Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Via Zoom
January 18, 2021

Minutes

Pattie Bland, President, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m., and confirmed a quorum.

The reading of the minutes of the November 16, 2020, Board of Directors meeting and the December 3, 2020, General Membership meeting was waived. The minutes were approved as previously distributed.

Pat Reyes, Treasurer, presented the financial report through December 2020. The report was accepted pending review.

Angelette Pryor, Volunteer Coordinator, reported that Extension personnel have moved into their new offices. Repairs and upgrades to the facility are continuing. Free public Wi-Fi has been added to the outside of the building. Angelette is monitoring VT updates concerning Covid-19 and will keep MGs informed. She is waiting on Better Impact to go live and will set up MG training when it does.

Pattie Bland, President, reported on the Seed Saver project/partnership with the Mechanicsville Library. She has collected most of the materials for 35 kits. She will assemble the kits and deliver them to the library on January 29. They will be available to the public on January 30. Pattie discussed the list of goals (see attached) the BOD came up with last year, and some additions for 2021. Most continue to be on hold or only in initial stages because of Covid-19.

Annette Schantz, HMGA Meetings, reported that the MGs she has spoken to are feeling disconnected from the MG program due to the lack of meetings and projects caused by Covid-19 restrictions. She suggested a start-up social meeting to keep MGs informed. She will work with Angelette to plan and announce a meeting. Meetings/speakers previously scheduled for February 1, March 1, and April 17 have been postponed or cancelled.

Linda Hazelwood, Land Care Steward, reported that she is working on a Firewise presentation, to be presented by the Land Care Stewards for the February 27 HGS class.

Beckey Watson was not present. Her report (attached) was emailed to the BOD and presented by Pattie. Beckey reported that it is a dilemma that we offer grants to groups, but groups aren't supposed to be gathering. She offered several suggestions for the BOD to consider. Beckey investigated the possibility of the HMGA joining the Adopt-a-Highway initiative. Pattie stated that because of safety issues, it might not be something we want to pursue.

Angelette Pryor, HGS, reported that Ed Wall is having some medical issues and may not be able to be at the library with the HGS presenter. There are also major hiccups with a portion of the Zoom accounts at VT. HGS is scheduled to start Saturday. Only four speakers are currently scheduled, and more are needed. For the time being, speakers will have to do their presentations from a location other than the library. Laura asked Angelette to go ahead and establish a link and forward it to interested people. Angelette will work with others to get the information on our website and on Facebook. A list of people interested in the HGS presentations will be compiled so that they can be informed of future presentations.

Val Kish, Help Desk, reported that they are still getting some calls and emails. She will work with Betty Jane Hughes to get questions and answers onto Facebook and the website.

Angelette Pryor, MG Training, stated that there are 12 people who will start MG training tomorrow in Hanover via Zoom. There will be 70 trainees in the metro area in total. There will be two days of orientation, and Val will teach the first class on Botany.

Plant Clinics, Susan Doran, reported that the HMGA has received an invitation from Maymont to participate in “2021 Herbs Galore” on April 23. Due to the restrictions on gatherings caused by the pandemic, the BOD decided to decline the invitation.

Pat Reyes, Plant Sale, stated that there probably would not be a sale again this year due to the restrictions on gatherings. Pattie said that other units have held sales and to think about how we might be able to hold a sale within gathering guidelines. Pat stated that with Ed out of action, the sale might not be worthwhile. The plants that Ed starts from seed provide one quarter of our sales. She will check with Ed to see if he has started any seeds yet.

Doris Gullotta, Scotchtown, reported that she will post some Scotchtown pictures on our sites.

Angelette Pryor, Continuing Education, said to check information from the State Cooperative Extension for educational opportunities. Angelette stated that a decision on 2021 volunteer hours is coming soon.

Pattie Bland, President, stated she would impanel a financial sub-committee (Pattie Bland, Pat Reyes, Betty Jane Hughes, and Marcie Townsend) to examine the need to further divide cost and expense categories of the HMGA budget. Pattie recommended an audit of the HMGA books be conducted this year. Julie Givler stated she would like to see a “discretionary fund” line item in the budget.

The Board was reminded that the next BOD meeting will be on February 15, 2021. The January 18, 2021, meeting of the HMGA Board of Directors was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Bryant
Secretary



HMGA Goals
2020-2021.docx



Cmte Reports HMGA
1.18.21 - Watson.docx



Cmte Report HMGA
1.18.21 - Brennan.docx