

Hanover Master Gardener Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Hanover Extension Grounds
June 21, 2021

Minutes

Pattie Bland, President, called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m., and confirmed a quorum.

The reading of the minutes of the May 17, 2021, Board of Directors meeting and the June 10, 2021, General Membership meeting was waived. The minutes were approved as previously distributed.

Laura Maxey-Nay, VCE/HMG, stated that a new microscope and testing kit has been ordered for the Extension office. She has been working on a new Activity form to replace the existing Project form.

Angelette Pryor, Volunteer Coordinator, said summer intern Sara Hallam started in the office on June 1. Laura will be conducting in-person interviews starting June 24 for a full time Hanover County 4-H Agent. Angelette has added more activities to Better Impact and is working with a group of MGs on ways to customize BI to the needs of the HMGs. Angelette reported that three MGs have applied for HMGA scholarships to International MG College, which is being held virtually on September 12-17.

Annette Schanz, VP/Meetings, reported that she has received the HMGA thank-you notes that were ordered, and has mailed notes to some of our previous speakers. Annette proposed an HMGA Social in July. The BOD discussed the proposal and settled on Monday, July 12, 2021, for the event to be held from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. on the lawn of the Extension Office. Attendees should bring a chair and their own food. Water will be provided by the hospitality committee. Beckey Watson will provide individual ice cream sundaes. The BOD discussed the fall General Membership meeting and picnic. The meeting will be held on Sunday, September 19, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. A tour and a presentation on oak trees will be given by Brenda Burke and Katherine Hebert on Brenda Burke's property in Old Church. Attendees will be asked to bring a picnic lunch and a chair. Water and desserts will be provided by the hospitality committee.

Linda Hazelwood, Land Care Steward, reported that the Land Care Stewards are working to arrange an MG training class on Home Visits in the future.

Betty Jane Hughes, Communications, stated that she has worked on changes to the HMGA handbook, including honoraria for speakers and for the requirements necessary to award Emeritus status to an MG. She will send out the changes to the BOD. She is working to get more activities posted onto BI.

Beckey Watson, Grants, reported that an online grant application was received from New Song Methodist Church. The application has been forwarded to the full committee. Beckey stated the application was for a permit for irrigation of the raised beds. (New Song was awarded a grant for those raised beds last year.) Beckey discussed the request with the BOD. It was decided that more information was needed as to exactly how the grant would be used. Beckey will reach out to Mary Wagner, MG partner on the project, and to New Song Methodist Church for more details.

Rosemary Wilkinson, HGS, reported that all slots for speakers for the summer presentations have been filled. She said there are six different volunteer opportunities for MGs and interns in addition to that of

the speaker; all are listed on BI. She is working to make sure all opportunities will be filled and would like some additional volunteers to be available in case they are needed on short notice. Betty Jane said she will send out an email to HMGs and interns.

Val Kish, Help Desk, reported that the Help Desk will begin transitioning from virtual to in-person training this week. She said that response from MGs and interns is good. She requested that the BOD consider a new computer that would be compatible with the new microscope that has been ordered. Missy is looking into prices, and Val will present that information at a future meeting.

Jane White/Kate Sandy, MG Training, stated that a location for the 2022 training class has been secured at Covenant Woods. Classes will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Class size will be between 8 and 20. An Open House will be scheduled in October. Beckey volunteered to work on a press release which will be submitted to Laura. They are also looking for additional ways to advertise MG training to the public.

Susan Doran, Plant Clinics, was not in attendance. Pattie presented her report. Plant clinics will be set up at the Ashland Farmers' Market on the second and fourth Saturday of June. Jon Philhower is the point person. Angelette has submitted the application for Plant Clinics at the Montpelier Farmers' Market to VT for approval. Plant Clinics will be the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. When approved, intern Caroline Velazquez will be the point person. Four Plant Clinics (2 in September and 2 in October) will be held at Lowe's on Saturdays. Lisa Willis will be the point person. Susan reported that the May Plant Clinic training at the Taylor Complex was well-attended by interns eager to get started. She thanked the people that helped with the arrangements and set-up. Pattie reported that the State Fair of Virginia will be held this year and there will be many volunteer opportunities. Christy, Angelette, and Pattie have tentatively settled on "Decomposers" as a theme for the Fair.

Doris Gullotta, Scotchtown, said that eleven volunteers (mostly interns) attended an evening workday at Scotchtown on May 27. MGs and interns participated in the May 29 Living History Day at Scotchtown. Doris said that the turnout was good considering it was a rainy day. She said the public asked many good questions. Doris said she was told that the gardens had never looked better. Doris will schedule another workday at Scotchtown soon and post it on BI. She said HMGA t-shirts have been ordered.

Carol Brown, Speakers Bureau, reported that she has received a request from a local garden club for a speaker, and will acquire additional information about that request.

Angelette Pryor, Continuing Education, reported that HMGA will participate in the "Bug Bizarre" which will be held on October 9. Angelette asked the BOD to consider the possibility of returning to in-person HGS presentations this fall. Doris offered to give a presentation on pruning, and Brenda offered to give a presentation on oak trees. Angelette said that an Activity lead would be needed.

Sandy Pence, Extension Office Gardens, reported that she is considering starting from scratch with the gardens. She is working on a plan and will submit a request for funds the new designs. She would like to schedule one workday a week for the gardens and have it listed on BI. Angelette stated she is looking for ways to incorporate educational opportunities for the public into the Extension Garden Activity. She said these educational opportunities could be stand-alone events or held in conjunction with other events being held at the Taylor Complex.

Pat Reyes, Treasurer, presented the financial report through May 2021. The report was accepted pending review.

The Board was reminded that the next BOD meeting will be on July 19, 2021. The June 21, 2021, meeting of the HMGA Board of Directors was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Present: Pattie Bland, Annette Schanz, Wayne Bryant, Pat Reyes, Linda Hazelwood, Betty Jane Hughes, Lisa Willis, Jane White, Doris Gullotta, Laura Maxey-Nay, Angelette Pryor, Beckey Watson, Val Kish, Carol Brown, Rosemary Wilkinson, Sandy Pence, Katherine Hebert, and Brenda Burke. The attendance sheet will be attached to the file copy of these minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Bryant
Secretary