

Hanover Master Gardener Association
General Membership Meeting
Via Zoom
May 6, 2021

Minutes

Pattie Bland, President, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the HMGA quarterly Association meeting. There were 45 participants at the meeting. Pattie introduced Annette Schanz.

Annette Schanz, VP/Meetings, introduced our guest speaker, Liz Revette, Master Naturalist, who spoke on “Our Local Bat Population and the Acoustic Monitoring of Bat Populations in Pocahontas Park.” The presentation was followed with a questions and answers session.

Annette thanked Liz for the presentation and turned the meeting back over to Pattie for a short business meeting.

Pattie stated that a Mentor Program for the recent trainees will be coordinated by Nancy Butler. Additional information on this Activity will be sent out soon.

Brenda Ham, Trips and Tours, is planning a tour of Oak Spring Gardens. MGs interested in participating should email Brenda at bjham320@verizon.net. She would like to schedule the trip in the next couple of months or in the fall. She will review the HMGA calendar before finalizing an exact date. She is also looking for suggestions for future trips. Julie Givler suggested Andre Viette Farm and Nursery. Pattie asked Brenda to send out an informational email with the details about the trip.

Pattie stated that the summer HGS calendar has been sent out by Betty Jane Hughes, Communications. Pattie said there are some openings for speakers, specifically June 10 on “Waterwise Gardening,” June 24 on “Vegetable Gardening in Small Plots,” and July 22 on “Lawn Care and Sizing your Lawn.” The programs will be presented virtually. Anyone interested in speaking on these subjects should contact Pattie or Rosemary Wilkinson. Rosemary reported that she had been asked by Angelette Pryor, Volunteer Coordinator, to help coordinate the HGS effort. Angelette has designed the HGS Activity to include five support roles in addition to the speakers’ role. She would like the support roles to include MGs and interns. Rosemary will be sending out an email with the details.

Pattie stated everyone should have received an email about submitting new Activity forms (formerly Project forms) for any current, new projects, or proposed Activity. The form for review and approval of a community education Activity can be found on Better Impact and must be submitted to Laura Maxey-Nay, Unit Coordinator.

Pattie reported that registration is open for International Master Gardener College being held virtually, September 12-17. Scholarships are available from the VMGA for up to 2 MGs per unit. An email with details will be coming out soon.

Pattie reminded MGs and interns of the “agenda free” MG Lawn Chair Lunches on Thursdays, 11 a.m. until 1 p.m., weather permitting.

Kate Sandy and Jane White have recently agreed to be co-coordinators for the 2022 Hanover MG training class. They said that they would be looking for lots of help from other MGs, and volunteers were welcome.

Annette stated that she has been working with Angelette to open up volunteer opportunities for MGs and interns to help them complete their hours. Speakers and topics are needed for HGS and HMGA meetings. She is seeking additional ideas and suggestions from our group. Angelette said that she will work individually with MGs and interns who have concerns about fulfilling the 20-hour requirement. Annette said that some MG units are allowing MGs and interns to get hours by donating excess produce that they grow to local food banks. She submitted the idea, and it will need further research and discussion. Angelette praised the MGs for the smooth transition from VMS to Better Impact.

Doris stated that she is working on an order for HMGA tee shirts. She will be sending out an email to all MGs and interns with the details.

Pattie, in response to a question, stated that there will not be an HMGA spring plant sale. The BOD will discuss the possibility of a fall plant sale at a future meeting.

Pattie reminded members that the next BOD meeting will be on May 17, 2021.

The MGs and interns went into virtual “breakout sessions” for about 15 minutes.

The May 6, 2021, HMGA General Membership meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Bryant
Secretary