

Hanover Master Gardener Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Hanover Evangelical Friends Church
April 15, 2019

Minutes

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

The reading of the minutes of the March 18, 2019, BOD meeting was waived. The minutes were approved as previously distributed.

Pat Reyes, Treasurer, presented the financial report through March 31, 2019. The report was accepted, pending financial review. The financial report will be attached to the file copy of the minutes.

Doris Gullotta, Immediate Past President, presented a display she had created that would help demonstrate the problems caused by “mulch volcanos” for use in the “Best Practices” theme at the State Fair. The Board was very impressed and recommended that it be included with the other educational displays at the HMGA plant sale on April 27.

Angelette Pryor, Volunteer Coordinator, was absent with notice. Pattie, reporting for Angelette, stated that there have been several calls about the next MG class. Angelette is keeping a list of those interested in the class. If anyone is interested in being a coordinator for the next MG class, please contact Angelette. The last day for the current 2019 MG class is April 25. Class presentations will be on April 23 and 25. MGs are encouraged to attend (please sign-up via VMS). Seven trainees have done volunteer hours at the Help Desk. Others are scheduled to be at the Help Desk next week to begin hours. A report from Val Kish stated that four interns have now completed the 4-hour Help Desk requirement. Val also reported there have been 17 direct HD walk-in contacts and 43 indirect contacts by phone and email. Master Gardener Volunteer Appreciation will be during the May 6, 2019, General Membership meeting. The Hanover Unit Support position was posted April 11. Anyone interested should apply via the VT applicant portal. Laura Maxey-Nay, ANR, is back part time. Extension bought a new larger computer screen for the Help Desk to facilitate the new microscope available to identify diseased plants, insects, etc.

Ginny Nicholas, HMGA Meetings, reported that American Family Fitness personal trainer Colette Woods will speak on functional movements associated with gardening at the May 6 General Membership meeting. Bobby Naglic will speak on growing herbs and their benefits at the June 6 member-led meeting. Ed Wall will speak about propagation at the July 11 member-led meeting. Buz Sawyer will speak about ponds at the August 8 member-led meeting. Ginny has secured a location in Beaverdam for the September General Membership meeting. The speaker will discuss sustainable organic gardening and offer a tour nearby. Kathleen Wellington will speak at the December 2 General Membership meeting on therapeutic gardening. Ginny has submitted a proposal for a new garden at the Parks and Recreation building to Laura. Ginny said that she has gotten the go-ahead and has submitted a soil test for the beds that will be planted. Ginny stated that the HMGs have been asked to provide some centerpieces for the tables at the Hanover Spirit of Volunteerism Celebration. The BOD will contact Judy Durant and Beckey Watson to see if they would like to volunteer their talents.

Emily Gianfortoni, Advanced MG/Land Care Steward, did not attend the meeting. Pattie reported that Linda Hazelwood and Emily have made one home visit this month. Two more home visits may be scheduled when forms are returned.

Ed Wall, HGS, reported good attendance (16) in Ashland at the last HGS presentation. He stated that the Covenant Woods location in Mechanicsville averages about twelve “regulars” for the program. He will look for a new location in Mechanicsville for next year. A volunteer is still needed to be on site for the program next year, as Ed will continue from behind the scenes.

Betty Jane Hughes, Communications, did not attend the meeting. Pattie reported for her. Betty Jane sent out an email, reminding former members of the plant sale and the May 6 General Membership meeting.

Beckey Watson, Grants, did not attend the meeting, and Pattie presented her report (attached). The Committee received and reviewed a grant application from Mechanicsville Elementary School. A follow-up meeting and planning session was held on April 2. After discussions with the applicant, it was deemed premature for the committee to recommend funding to the board until more details are in place. Beckey will also send an updated Project Proposal to Laura for the Roddey Jones Memorial Grant for this year and each year in the future.

Buz Sawyer, Plant Clinic, stated that the first PC at Lowes went very well. He is working to get the PC boxes located, updated, and fully stocked. He has revised the instructions on “How to Run a Plant Clinic” for 2019. He is concerned about replacing the tablecloths. Doris advised that TSI can provide tablecloths for \$150 each, and she will get more details and information on set-up costs. Buz advised that there was a potential problem with materials transport for Herbs Galore. Christy Brennan volunteered to transport the materials.

Doris Gullotta, Scotchtown, reported that three volunteers participated in the April 6 clean-up day at Scotchtown. Two signs crediting HMGA volunteers have been installed in the gardens. New plants are being purchased for the gardens, and Doris will schedule more days as needed.

Christy Brennan, VMGA Representative, stated the next VMGA meeting will be on Saturday, April 17, 2019, near Roanoke. The May VMGA educational event for MGs in Roanoke is posted on VMS. Christy reminded the Board that MG College will be September 12-15, in Norfolk this year. One-day passes will be available to MGs, and some classes may be open to the public. It will be a test run for International MG College being held there in 2021. Christy asked if the HMGA would be interested in hosting the December VMGA meeting. Juanita will check with HEFC to see if the date is available.

Pattie reminded the Board that the next BOD meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2019, at the HEFC. The April meeting of the HMGA Board of Directors was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Present: Pattie Bland, Ginny Nicholas, Pat Reyes, Wayne Bryant, Doris Gullotta, Christy Brennan, Buz Sawyer, Lisa Willis, Ed Wall, Juanita Wrenn, and Sandy Pence. The attendance sheet will be attached to the file copy of these minutes.



Respectfully submitted,

**Wayne Bryant
Secretary**