

Hanover Master Gardener Association
Board of Directors Meeting
The Home of Pat Reyes
August 19, 2019

Minutes

Pattie Bland, President, called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m., and confirmed a quorum. She thanked Pat Reyes for opening her home for the meeting.

The reading of the minutes of the July 15, 2019, BOD meeting was waived. The minutes were approved as previously distributed.

Pat Reyes, Treasurer, presented the financial report through July 31, 2019. Pat stated that she had sent a \$250 check to VT for a sponsorship donation to support the MG College. Pattie advised the BOD of the “thank you” letter from VT. Pattie pointed out that the BOD had approved a \$500 donation at the last meeting. Pat said she would send another \$250 right away. The report was accepted, pending financial review. The financial report will be attached to the file copy of the minutes.

Laura Maxey-Nay, VCE/ANR, reported that Pattie represented the MGs at the 50-Mile Meal. MG Anne Atkins provided some flower arrangements for the event. The 50-Mile Meal, hosted by Hanover-Caroline SWCD and Hanover County Virginia Cooperative Extension, brings together our local farmer/producers and our Hanover Board of Supervisors to showcase local Farm-to-Table agriculture by sharing a delicious meal produced within a 50-mile radius. Laura reported that Dave Close has accepted another position at VT. Kathleen Reed, former ANR agent for Roanoke, has accepted the position of VCE State Coordinator. Laura held a planning meeting for the “Bug Bizarre” this afternoon. She requested funds to support crafts for kids involved in the event, hosted by Henrico County. The Board agreed to reimburse Laura for her expenditures for this project. Emily has completed the digital presentation of the new “Brag Board” and submitted it to MG College.

Angelette Pryor, Volunteer Coordinator, was absent with prior notice. Laura reported for her that Jen Alexander reactivated her status as an MG on 7/31/19, and Jon Philhower reactivated his status as an MG on 8/19/19. She welcomed them both back. MG training classes will be held at Woodside Farm. Day classes will be offered in 2020 from January 7 through March 19, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. There will be three volunteer coordinators, one for each month. Angelette has printed fliers and asked MGs to pick some up from the office for distribution and posting around the area. The next planning meeting is scheduled for September 6. Laura asked the BOD to support the MG training class by paying the \$50 speaker honorariums. The Board agreed to provide the funds. The AgFest will be held on August 28 at VSU Randolph Farm. The cost is \$10 per person. Laura reported that the Sunflower Festival has been moved up by two weeks and will be at the Ingles Farm this weekend. With the lack of notice on the date change, it may not be possible to get volunteers to support this event. Laura stated that Angelette was requesting funds to print HMGA Handbooks. The Board discussed the request at length and decided that it was an unnecessary expense since the information will be available on the website. Requests from persons that cannot download the information will be addressed individually. Angelette advised that there has been an uptick in speaker requests. Laura stated that she is trying to track down the new tablecloths but is having trouble contacting the vendor.

Ginny Nicholas, HMGA Meetings, was absent with prior notice. Pattie reported that the remainder of the meeting schedule for 2019 is set. The September General Membership/Picnic Meeting will be held at the Montpelier Parks and Recreation facility and will feature Dominic Carpin, who will discuss sustainable organic gardening and offer a tour of the delli Carpini Farm nearby. Beckey Watson will speak about “Birds in the Garden” at the Ashland Library on October 7. Richard Wood and Jane White will discuss “Garden Helpers in the Air and Underground - Bats and Worms” at the November 4 member-led meeting. Kathleen Wellington, from Green Springs MG Group, will speak on “Therapeutic Gardening” at the December 2 General Membership meeting.

Betty Jane Hughes, Communications, stated that Marion Jones has been added to the “friends of HMGA” list. She said that a Prince George intern requested information about transferring to the HMGs. Betty Jane said she will be posting new information on the website, including the new HMGA Handbook and the “Brag Board” submitted to MG College. She will send a note to MGs reminding them to save extra plants for the spring sale when reworking gardens this fall. She will also add information on joining the VMGA.

Beckey Watson, Educational Grants, forwarded to Pattie an update from the Educational Grants Committee on the previously awarded “Arc of Hanover” grant project (see attached). Pattie will investigate having the information featured in the Hanover newspaper.

Lisa Willis and Val Kish conducted a survey of MG interns of concerns and possible solutions to aid in the transition from intern to MG. They presented the results of the survey (see attached). The information will be submitted to the MG training focus group. Pattie thanked them both for their work.

Christy Brennan, State Fair/VMGA, and Pattie are waiting on the details for the Master Gardener booth and educational station on the pollinator walk. Christy is getting USDA posters that will be located at each station. There will be a “Jeopardy” type game, pollinator card matching, and pollinator stamps at each location. The BOD discussed awarding a “Native Plants for Virginia’s Capital Region” booklet to those who complete the pollinator walk. Christy is working with other MG Units for State Fair volunteer positions. Four units will confirm this week. VT has provided \$500 in support. Christy said that 279 MGs, 6 non-MGs, and 30 Water Stewards have registered for MG College. She said that the hotel is full but another across the street is still available. Christy reported that some MG units are not following VT guidelines to award Emeritus status. She confirmed that the HMGA does follow those guidelines. Christy stated that a volunteer is needed for the VMGA Education Committee.

Buz Sawyer, Plant Clinics, reported that almost all PC volunteer opportunities are filled, except for a few slots on Saturday at the LGBG plant sale. The BOD discussed ideas for the LGBG PC and decided on taking the hoop demo (to discuss extending the gardening season), and the compost demo. Buz stated that he has been in contact with the Henrico ANR agent where they are very busy with the “Bug Bizarre.” He advised that there is a special group of Henrico MGs that usually handle the LGBG PC and Hanover MGs might not be needed. Buz will follow up and advise the BOD.

Doris Gullotta, Scotchtown, reported that she held the seventh MG workday on Wednesday, August 14. She said the site people are also working in the vegetable garden. Doris will plan a planting day in October and will send out a request for replacement plants that will be needed.

Ed Wall, HGS, was not available but provided his report to Pattie. Pattie forwarded the HGS tentative schedule and report to the BOD. The dates have been set but he is still waiting to hear from the Atlee Library on that location. Pattie advised that a call for presenters will be sent via email to MGs.

Pattie reminded the Board that the next BOD meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2019, at the HEFC. The August meeting of the HMGA Board of Directors was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Present: Pattie Bland, Pat Reyes, Wayne Bryant, Doris Gullotta, Linda Hazelwood, Betty Jane Hughes, Lisa Willis, Christy Brennan, Buz Sawyer, Laura Maxey-Nay, Val Kish, and Juanita Wrenn. The attendance sheet will be attached to the file copy of these minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Bryant
Secretary



MG Intern Survey.pdf



Report to Board
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