

Hanover Master Gardener Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Virtual Via Zoom
May 18, 2020

Minutes

Pattie Bland, President, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m., and confirmed a quorum.

The reading of the minutes of the February 17, 2020, Board of Directors meeting and the March 9, 2020, Board of Directors meeting was waived. The minutes were approved as previously distributed.

Pat Reyes, Treasurer, was not present and no report was submitted.

Laura Maxey-Nay, Unit Coordinator/VCE Agent, reported that things are in a holding pattern. She reported a great turnout for the Virtual HGS program. She stated that the HGS content was good and many people were viewing the recorded sessions. Angelette Pryor stated that the Henrico MGs will join Hanover MGs in presenting HGS programs starting in June. Henrico will present programs on the first and third Thursdays and Hanover will present on the second and fourth Thursdays. Angelette stated that the HGS programs are a good way to get MGs and the public together and will continue for the duration of the contact restrictions due to the corona virus. Laura reported that VT has formed a planning committee to decide how to proceed during the current crisis.

Angelette Pryor, Volunteer Coordinator, reported that she has received some inquiries about MG training. She said that a decision needs to be made on dates and a location for the training to reserve a location. She can check with the Social Services Building to see if that is available. The 2021 classes will be held in the evening. Angelette stated that we will have a volunteer recognition program when MGs can get together again in person. She said she has been receiving pictures of MG projects and will post them. Angelette reported that lots of MGs are signing up for virtual MG College. She said that there are lots of CE opportunities available and that MGs are responding well to those opportunities. She said that MGs can submit possible CE opportunities to Laura for approval.

Pattie Bland, President, stated that the reprinting of the "Native Plants for Virginia's Capital Region" guides are on hold. They should be shipped in late June and will need to be stored offsite.

Ginny Nicholas, HMGA Meetings, reported that the meeting and speaker for the June 4 General Membership meeting has been canceled. Christy Brennan will speak on "Gardeners and Produce Safety" at the July 9 Member-led meeting. (Ginny will reschedule Betty Jane to speak at a later date.) She is looking for a speaker for the August 6 Member-led meeting. The General Membership meeting/picnic/tour will be held on September 20 at the Freckled Flower Farm, where Kelly Waldrop will speak. Ginny will also book Montpelier Park for the event in case of rain. Bill Fleming will speak at the October 5 Member-led meeting on "Origins of Soil and Plant Life." Marcie Townsend will speak at the November 2 Member-led meeting on the "Potager Gardens." Dave Slack from the Department of Forestry will speak at the December 3 General Membership meeting. Ginny reported that she and Pattie had been working on the garden at the office, and that there was still more to be done.

Val Kish, Help Desk, reported that with the help of Laura and Angelette she has set up a procedure to remotely pick up questions submitted by email and phone. She maintains a log and, with two volunteers, answers those questions. There were 24 contacts in April. VT is not currently accepting live samples but is accepting digital images for evaluation. Val stated that the remote Help Desk is working very well.

Pattie stated that Nicky Maddams will take point with the State Fair this year.

Susan Doran, Plant Clinics, reported that everything is upside down this year. She has met with Buz Sawyer who had everything in order when he turned the information over to her. She said things are on hold and she is just waiting to restart the clinics.

Doris Gullotta, Scotchtown, stated that she and Becky Blake planted a tomato plant (donated by Ed Wall) Friday and did some weeding. More vegetables are needed in the garden and she will do some more work there this week but will not require additional volunteers. She said that she has some t-shirts for MGs that need to be picked up and paid for. Angelette will coordinate with her to get them out to the MGs that ordered them. Payments can be sent directly to Pat Reyes.

Richard Wood, Youth Activities, reported that he has spoken with the Henrico Agent, Ed Olsen, concerning the "Bug Bizarre" scheduled for later this year. Volunteers will be needed. Richard also has been working with Parks and Recreation.

The Board was reminded that the next General Membership meeting, scheduled for June 4, has been canceled. The next Board of Directors meeting will be on June 15. The May 18, 2020, meeting of the HMGA Board of Directors was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Present: Pattie Bland, Ginny Nicholas, Wayne Bryant, Doris Gullotta, Linda Hazelwood, Lisa Willis, Julie Givler, Jane White, Val Kish, Angelette Pryor, Laura Maxey-Nay, Susan Doran, and Richard Wood. The VMS Event sheet will be attached to the file copy of these minutes.

Christy Brennan, VMGA, was not in attendance but asked Pattie to remind MGs that it is time to submit dues for the VMGA. Dues can be paid online at VMGA.net. Christy also reported that the VMGA is working on a grant for MG units to finance educational opportunities.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Bryant
Secretary