

**Hanover Master Gardener Association**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Extension Office**  
**February 27, 2023**

**Minutes**

Kate Sandy, Co-President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and confirmed a quorum.

The reading of the minutes of the January 23, 2023, Board of Directors meeting was waived. The minutes were approved as previously distributed.

Pat Reyes, Treasurer, provided the financial report through January 31, 2023. The report stated a balance in checking of \$7,262.95 and a CD balance of \$14,605.04. Pat reported that she transferred \$2,000.00 from the CD to the checking account when the CD was renewed in January. She also reported that 2023 dues received in December of 2022 were held and deposited in January 2023. The report was accepted, pending review.

Bob Durbin discussed the Horticultural Learning Center. He recommended we proceed slowly and with caution. Two grants for the HLC are already pending, and he is trying to locate HMGA incorporation documents needed to apply for additional grants. He also needs to formalize answers to questions about the HMGA Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Leadership Investment and Adaptability, Engagement in Strategic Partnerships with other Non-Profit, Public and/or Private Sector Organizations, as well as other in-depth questions about the HMGA, to apply for additional grants. Susan Higgins is working on answers to these questions. Bob reported that there is currently enough cardboard on hand to cover the first area of the HLC. He is hoping for a delivery of wood chips this week and Kate Sandy and her husband Terry are working with SB Cox to make it happen. The GFWC Ashcake Woman's Club was one of the first organizations to donate money to the HLC project. They are the sponsors of the annual [Ashland Harvest Run](#) and donate the proceeds to two organizations each year. They have asked the HMGA to help support this year's run with a table and a few volunteers. They have stated that the HMGA will be one of the organizations which will receive a donation from the event. They have said that there is not enough support within their organization to continue to sponsor the event alone. Bob has discussed the possibility of the HMGA partnering with them in the future. HMGA will promote the event on HMGA sites.

Kate read the note sent by Bob to the HMGA thanking the HMGA for approving \$2,000 for the HLC. She stated the MGs are considering raising money with a fall yard sale. Doris stated that she will be placing a donation box at HMGA events at Scotchtown so that the public can help support HMGA activities. Kate stated that the letter to MGs on the benefits of HMGA membership is completed.

Pattie Bland stated that the final changes and updates for the reprint of the "Native Plants for Virginia's Capital Region" guide are nearing completion for publication later this year. She thanked the Hanover VCE unit for volunteering to be the fiscal agent for this reprint.

Eleanor Fukushima, VP/Meetings, stated that on March 13, Andrew Pompei, a Principal Planner and Project Manager from the Hanover County Planning Department, will speak at our General Membership meeting. There is not currently a meeting scheduled for April. She is working to secure additional

speakers for future meetings, is researching gardens for trips and tours, and discussed having two picnic meetings at the pavilion near the office.

Betty Jane Hughes reported that Amazon Smiles ended in February. She stated that HMGA note cards that were ordered have arrived and will be available in the office. Betty Jane reported that she has paid for web hosting for the next 1.5 years and is exploring a less expensive option for the future. At the last BOD meeting, Betty Jane discussed potential changes to the HMGA bylaws concerning the financial review committee. As a follow-up to that previous discussion, Kate stated that the HMGA has a lot going on currently and that there is no need to invest time making changes to bylaws that are sufficient. The topic will be revisited in the future. At the last meeting, Betty Jane had also presented a proposed HMGA Financial SOP. The proposals were discussed at length and changes suggested at that meeting. Since the suggested changes have not yet been completed, that topic on today's agenda was also tabled until a future meeting.

Beckey Watson, Educational Grants, reported that the Atlee Little League Complex made an application for a grant of \$500 for construction of four raised beds, to plant them with native plants, and incorporate interpretative signs to the Complex grounds. The Grant Committee recommended approval of the grant request. Betty Jane presented the application and discussed it with the Board. The Board approved the grant request with a recommendation that the approval emphasize the requirement to provide the HMGA a report on the project.

Lisa Willis, Lowe's Plant Clinics, discussed the problem of getting enough volunteers for the plant clinics last year. She suggested we cut back on the number of PCs this year. The Board advised Lisa that she was in charge and would support her decisions concerning the number and dates of the Lowe's plant clinics. The Board also discussed incorporating PC training in the MG training program, having a mock PC, and possibly requiring every intern to volunteer for at least one PC.

Pat Reyes volunteered to provide a snack for the social time before the start of the March BOD meeting. It was decided that everyone would bring their own beverage. Betty Jane will have sign-up opportunities for future months available on BI.

Additional reports are appended below.

The next BOD meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2023. The February 27, 2023, meeting of the HMGA Board of Directors was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

**Present:** Kate Sandy, Sandy Pence (via Zoom), Eleanor Fukushima, Pat Reyes, Wayne Bryant, Linda Hazelwood, Doris Gullotta, Bob Durbin, Anne Margaret White, Lisa Willis, Sammye Daou, Juanita Wrenn, Pattie Bland, Angelette Pryor, Val Kish, Betty Jane Hughes, and Carol Brown were in attendance. The attendance sheet will be attached to the file copy of these minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Bryant  
Secretary



HMGA Activity  
Reports for Feb 2023.



2023-02-13 Atlee  
Little League Grant Application