

Master Gardeners of Bergen County
Board Meeting 4/24/09

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

Members present: Vivian DeMarco, Carol Tutundgy, Leslie Maltz, Walter Traubel, Janet Jaarsma, Tracey Fraser, Andrea Kanoc, Jane Furman, Joseph Cooper

Lists of goals from Andrea, Tracey, Jane and Joseph were distributed and discussed. A common theme was to establish a solid foundation for the organization in year 1: Fill all board positions and write job descriptions. Develop committee goals. Expand our exposure in the community. Build the Master Gardener "brand". Gain 501C3 status. It was decided to add to the 1 years goals : to examine the number of volunteer sites and determine whether each benefits or hinders our volunteer efforts. See attached.

Janet Austin was proposed as chair of speaker's bureau. She was unanimously approved. She will have to recruit members to become speakers and help them create programs that reflect Master Gardener and Rutgers information.

We are still in need of an archivist. We will ask for a volunteer at the next general meeting.

Jane reported that Sally Ditton's dad passed away and Sue Handley's husband also passed away. Carol Tutundgy will send sympathy cards.

Joseph Cooper's addition to the board as Volunteer Hours Chair had not been formally voted on by the board previously. He was unanimously approved.

Joseph reviewed the status of the website. Officer's phone numbers and E mails were removed as requested by Andrea. The committee will create a members only area. All members were asked again for their input. Joseph asked that all additions, corrections and suggestions be E mailed to him. He thanked Janet Jaarsma for her offer of help with spelling, grammar and proofreading. There was discussion about how the site is a tool we can use to represent our organization to our members and the public.

The summer picnic will be on June 23 at Virginia Korteweg's garden @ 6:00 P.M. Julia Morrill will chair committee. Andrea, Janet, Tracey and Jane volunteered for the committee.

Merchants insurance has requested a narrative that describes the Master Gardeners and our activities. After some discussion, it was decided that Jane will write up the narrative and submit to the board for approval.

2009 graduation will be on September 12. Suzanne Danzig will be asked to chair committee. It was voted that the MG organization will donate \$150 toward graduation expenses.

A motion passed to give \$50 for refreshments for garden tours at the Friedman and Hinsch gardens.

Tracey reviewed the Kolvek sale. She reminded us that we need people to help set up for the May 19th meeting at 4:30 P.M.

Board meeting will be at 5:30.

Discussion of Outreach was placed last on the agenda so that chair Arnie Friedman could join us after his conference call. We waited as long as possible and then the board decided to have a discussion about the role of Outreach. There was general agreement that the main job of Outreach should be to have a physical presence at events around the county like fairs, farmers markets, earth day celebrations. This is the board position with the highest profile and will need the largest committee. There is potential to be creative in developing new community partnerships. A preliminary job description was discussed. See attached.

We will try to discuss at least one job description for board positions at each board meeting. Andrea volunteered to present ideas about the newsletter chair duties for the next meeting. We also need to come up with a description for the Sunshine job.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.