

**Master Gardeners of Bergen County
Board of Directors Minutes for**

November 18, 2014

Meeting was called to order by President Cooper at 5:45

Present at the meeting: Joseph Cooper, Suzanne Danzig, Leslie Maltz, Fran Langendoen, Jane Furman, Donna Karpel, Karen Pennell, John Walters, Tracey Fraser, Pat Fromm, Joe Papa, Hank Annunziata, Pat Libutti, Serpil Leveen, Janet Austin, Lucy Malka, Josie Ko,

Previous Minutes:

Leslie Maltz motioned to approve the September 23rd minutes with no corrections, Pat Fromm second the motion.

Pat Fromm motioned to approve the October 28th minutes with no corrections, Karen Pennell second the motion.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance as of October 28, 2014.....	\$13,212.12
Income:	\$1,370.00
Expense:	\$1,175.11
Balance as of November 18, 2014	\$13,407.01

Presidents Report:

New student breakfast went very well once again this year.

Joel is requesting that MGof BC contribute \$500 to cover a portion of expenses incurred by Bergen County at the National MG Coordinator Conference.

Committee reports are due by the end of December; this is just a brief summary.

Our Newsletter format and information measures up well after reviewing samples of other counties newsletter.

The State provides pins to honor those who have been active MG for 25years. MGofBC has six 25 year members; Evelyn Bober, Michael Granata, John Moorhead, Betty McDonnell and Ralph Lombardi, Joyce Andrew

Corresponding Secretary:

Serpil had nothing new to report.

Finance Committee:

We continue to welcome suggestions for this position.

Outreach Events and Volunteers:

Nothing new to report at this time.

Garden Club Liaison:

Karen inquired about the Garden Clubs getting involved in the NJBG Holiday Open House, this is a NJBG decision.

Hospitality:

Hank has several volunteers signed up for the MGofBC holiday party. The New Student Breakfast went very well and many thanks to board members who provided the food and drink.

Archivist:

Barbara was not present, still looking to fill this position.

Membership:

An unofficial count of 96 total members to date.

John Walters expresses concerns regarding members not fulfilling the 25 hour volunteer requirement. There appear to be two groups; the elderly who are unable and others who just do not pull their weight. The President will communicate with the later, if there is a legitimate reason they will be excused for one year and as for the more elderly we will encourage less physical volunteer opportunities for them.

All Volunteer Coordinators are required to be active members of MGofBC. Flatrock does not have an active coordinator and one should be nominated. All site coordinators should be reviewed.

Newsletter:

Once again the members are enjoying the new format with many positive comments. Our newsletter compares very well to other MG newsletters around the state.

Publicity:

Facebook is connected to all the patches throughout the county and this has proven to be helpful. Very little response to the Logo contest. Should we reach out to an art school? Joseph will reach out to his nephew.

RMGANJ:

Jane's final report after December 2nd meeting.

Sunshine:

Jane has organized groups from each class to report news to the Sunshine committee and this has been working out very well. Again, Jane will be stepping down from this position and Joseph is looking for a replace ASAP.

Site Coordinator Liaison:

Karen would like a site to be featured in the newsletter each month. A discussion about highlighting the sites in the newsletter included; adding a section with banner headline for site announcements similar to the Garden Club Grapevine and featuring articles about each site. *Garretson Forge and Farm* featured "Deck the Halls" on December 4th, many hands were needed for this event and on December 6th hosted a Dutch Xmas Open House.

Anna Fisichella and MG volunteers decorated the front gates of the *Hermitage* to welcome guests at two special holiday events. December 7th "Magical After noon at the Hermitage" with guided tours and holiday movies playing at Jaqua Hall Theatre. December 12th "Candlelight & Champagne Evening" proceeds to benefit the children's educational programs at the Hermitage.

Speakers Bureau:

Janet reported that she continues to work on the pamphlet.

Tours and Trips:

Josie reported that the next tour will be Teaneck Greenhouse. She was attempting to keep things somewhat local for now. She will continue to call potential sites but would like input as to how far people want to travel and how much they are willing to spend.

Programs:

We are currently booked for the year but will need a meet and greet for the upcoming events. Continue to seek a replacement for Tracey Frazer.

January: Ted Zawinski "Plant & Soil Relationships"

February: Bill Hlubik "Organic Gardening-Natural Landscaping"

March: Arnie Friedman "Storm Water Management"

April: Ira Grassgreen "Annuals Rock"

May: Katie Widell from the New Jersey Meadowland Commission.

Volunteers Records:

So far no reports have come in. Donna confirmed that all that all forms were correct and accessible on the website

Website:

There are 2 new videos on the BCMG website one of the BC Fair and one of the class of 2014 work detail clearing 7000sq ft at Overpeck for the butterfly and native garden site.

Nominating Committee:

Voted on slate or officers at the MGofBC meeting.

New Business:

Recognized both Jane and Tracey for their hard work and dedication to the MGofBC. Best of luck to both of you.

Meeting adjourned at 6:53