

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

February 23, 2015

January meeting was cancelled due to weather.

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

Present at the meeting: Joseph Cooper, Suzanne Danzig, Leslie Maltz, Fran Langendoen, Donna Karpel, Karen Pennell, John Walters, Hank Annunziata, Pat Libutti, Serpil Leveen, Janet Austin, Lucy Malka

Previous Minutes:

No minutes from January meeting due to cancellation.

Treasurer's Report:

Balance as of November 18, 2014.....	\$13,407.01
Income:	\$2646.00
Expense:	\$2878.03
Balance as of January 27, 2015.....	\$13,174.58

Balance as of January 27, 2015.....	\$13,174.58
Income:.....	\$1370.00
Expenses:.....	\$ 00.00
Balance as of February 24, 2015.....	\$14,544.58

There was a discrepancy in October and November's beginning and ending balances, Fran and Suzanne will address this.

Fran would like to change the bank we currently use as Mariner does not have convenient locations. Looking for a more centrally located bank.

Deposits must be more efficient and more frequent, some checks are taking months to deposit.

Presidents Report:

Skyland's Holiday Open House was a huge success netting \$18,000, highest net to date.

Continuing to seek a chair for the Finance Committee who would assist MGofBC establish ability to use credit card and search for a CC merchant.

Corresponding Secretary:

Serpil received e-mail from Miriam Taub requesting that additional items be requested from members for the donations made at our monthly meetings, ie, personal hygiene items for an organization that she is involved with. Serpel will inform her that we donate to one organization but will request additional items be donated other than food.

Finance Committee:

We continue to welcome suggestions for this position.

Outreach Events and Volunteers:

Pat not in attendance.

Garden Club Liaison:

All garden club correspondence should go through Lucy only...we have to discriminate what we are promoting

Hospitality:

MGofBC holiday party was great, however the venue was broken up into too many rooms, difficult to mingle.

Joe Lamela is considering doing the spring picnic again, Hank will follow up with him.

Archivist:

Continue to seek replacement for this position.

Membership:

We currently have 154 members.

Newsletter:

When Leslie receives our submissions for the newsletter, she will send us a one word reply, if we do not get a reply, contact her again.

Rutgers has produced an app for smart phones that has all access to all fact sheets called **NJATS**.

Contributing authors will go back to being recognized at the end of the article rather than in a group, and keep articles to a paragraph.

Publicity:

Bergen County wide "Patch Papers" will only post in one town so Pat has established 10 e-mails so she can post in each town. Pat would like to perform survey to determine how people heard about our meetings and events, Rutgers is looking for a headcount.

RMGANJ:

Karen reported that Dan Kluchinski of Rutgers has announced a new policy for working with children. Details to follow.

Sunshine:

Continue to seek chair for this committee.

Site Coordinator Liaison:

MGofBC received a thank you note from Social Services for the donations made as result of our collections.

We raised \$850 for charity due to Albina Daukantas' generosity. As a result, the Thielke Arboretum and the Center for Food Action each received \$425.

Karen would like very specific name for each site. The site at Overpeck will officially be named *Native Plant/Butterfly Garden*.

Concern has been raised about the lack of hours put into one of our sites. *Tenaflly Nature Center* cannot seem to generate hours, how do we fix this?

Tours and Trips:

Josie not in attendance.

Programs:

Karen recommended Donna Faustini as Programs Chair.

*Motion: Leslie Maltz motioned to nominate Donna Faustini as Programs Chairperson, Donna Karpel seconds and unanimous approval.

March: Arnie Friedman "Storm Water Management"

April: Ira Grassgreen "Annuals Rock"

May: Katie Widell from the New Jersey Meadowland Commission.

Volunteers Records:

6,665 volunteer hours have been recorded to date which is 3,000 shy of last years numbers. At least 5 people do not have hours and one person is dropping out.

Recording volunteer hours continues to be an issue, we must crack down. Joseph suggested we form a committee to discuss what steps can be taken to. The committee will consist of John Walters, Joseph Cooper, Donna Karpel, Serpel Leveen and Suzanne Danzig.

New Business:

The last two pages of the directory are miss printed resulting in reprinting which cost \$360. John offered to share the cost but we have funds.

*Motion: Fran Langendoen motioned that we cover the cost, Serpel seconded, unanimous approval.

Old Business:

25 year pins have not come in yet.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55