

**Master Gardeners of Bergen County
Board of Directors Minutes for
September 28, 2015**

Meeting was called to order by President Cooper at 5:38

Present at the meeting: Joseph Cooper, Suzanne Danzig, Fran Langendoen, Donna Karpel, Hank Annunziata, Pat Libutti, Serpil Leveen, Donna Faustini, Josie Ko, Karen Pennell, Janet Schulz, Pat Fromm, John Walters, Lucy Malka

Recording Secretary:

May minutes were not available. Fran Langendon took minutes due to Suzanne Danzig's absence at Mays meeting, Fran will see if she can find the notes for that meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Report not available, Fran will provide at the next meeting.

Fran proposed that we change our banking to Orittany Bank with 23 locations, more convenient. Suggested we make the change in time for the deposit of membership checks, but most feel it is better to change January 1st.

**Motion:* John Walters motions that we switch banking to Orittany Bank, Pat Fromm seconds the motions all in favor with 3 abstaining.

Continued discussion about the filing of 501-C3 forms for our certification, Bruce is in the process of refiling with a fee of \$400. No paperwork was ever received from the government which raised the issue of creating a PO Box for MG of BC so mail does not go through RCE office.

Pat Fromm will research the procedure for opening a PO Box and where.

Fran receives state forms to her home and pays fees with CC. Poses a problem when treasurers position changes hands, PO Box will resolve this issue as well.

Corresponding Secretary:

Serpil, entered all graduates of the class of 2014 and 2015 into the system, however, there are still issues with the distribution of the newsletter. She continues to work on resolving the issues. It was suggested we add all county executives to the distribution list.

Class Liaison:

New class liaison has yet to be appointed.

Outreach Events and Volunteers:

Event at Overpeck was well attended in spite of the heat. Perhaps one day rather than 2 days for this event is sufficient, this will be brought up at state meeting.

There seemed to be some issues with tent, miscommunication perhaps.

There were several volunteers who did not show up for their shifts, some called with short notice and some just did not show up at all.

Garden Club Liaison:

Lucy reported that everything is status quo.

Archivist:

Continue to seek replacement for this position.

Publicity:

Nothing new to report.

Hospitality:

Summer MG picnic at a Van Saun pavilion was well attended.

The Holiday Party will take place on Tuesday December 15th at Glen Rock Athletic Club, 221 Main Street, Glen Rock. Time was not specified.

Membership:

John will schedule date to review membership designation, with Donna Karpel, Suzanne Danzig and Serpil Leveen.

It was suggested we get someone to assist with membership, but John has it under control.

Newsletter:

Janet Schulz is the new editor of the Potting Shed. Janet has outlined specific guidelines for the articles that are submitted: Use Aria 8 font, photos should be attached in jpeg format, articles should not be more than one page (2 columns), and authors should include their names at end of article.

Janet will refer to previous year's issues to check on content, format, etc, and confer with chairperson for specifics.

RMGANJ:

MG Conference is scheduled for October 3rd and registration has been closed. 5 members from Bergen County will be recognized for their service for 25 years and Bergen will issue 2 awards for excellence.

Bergen County does not have a designated coordinator, Joel is an ag rep but not a coordinator. Key members are starting to retire so it is important to get more members involved. In addition Rutgers does not have funds to cover all costs so representatives are being asked to contribute. There is a continued need to make it known that MG volunteering is essential to the existence of the program.

Site Coordinator Liaison:

Susan Gurak would like to propose that a portion of the Russel Farms, specifically the sensory garden, be a designated site. It is not yet complete but in the process. This would be site #17

Tours and Trips:

October trip is booked.

Nominating Committee:

Karen Pennell is chair and Carol Thielke and Lucy Malka are committee members at work, will propose nominees at next meeting.

Volunteers Records:

Nothing new to report at this time.

New Business:

Joseph will ask Dale to schedule a Class Breakfast to introduce the board to the new class.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15