

**Master Gardeners of Bergen County  
Board of Directors Minutes for  
October 25, 2016**

Meeting was called to order by President Cooper at 5:35

**Present at the meeting:** Joseph Cooper, Suzanne Danzig, Hank Annunziata, Donna Faustini, Serpil Leveen, Lucy Malka, Karen Pennell, John Walters, Joe Papa, Josie Ko, Janet Schulz, Bruce Walencyk, Donna Karpel

**Presidents Report:**

November 19, Class '16 Graduation at 12:00 at McFaul Center. Joel, Joe Papa and Joseph to attend and present certified pins and cards. Carol Thielke passed away there is a collection of cut flowers to be dropped off at the arboretum for flower arrangements for memorial service. The Service will be Friday, October 28 at 10:00am at the Community Church in Glen Rock.

Joseph spoke to Joel regarding the Student Breakfast scheduled for November 4<sup>th</sup>; anyone who would like to speak please keep it short. Joel will pick a class liaison.

Joseph spoke with several new students to discuss their skills with the hopes of bringing onto the board to fill committee chairs.

The fair went well on Saturday however, Sunday was rained out.

**Vice President:**

Joe Papa is in the process of making adjustments at his new position with Rutgers's Cooperative Extension however feels that he will not be able to fulfill his commitment as Vice President of the MGofBC due to his new role but will do the best he can until they can find a replacement.

There was an incident at the Garretson Forge and Farm building, a small fire due to a cooking mishap and Paulette would like to know how MGofBC handles incidents such as this. It was confirmed that all site coordinators should have someone to answer to ie. Parks Commission, etc. and that there should be designated days that MGs are scheduled to volunteer, but it is not a written rule. At Garretson there is one day that the MG generally volunteer and after that the Friends of Garretson look after the site.

**Recording Secretary:**

Suzanne is to forward last month's minutes to all those board members who were not in attendance at last meeting for their review. We will approve minutes at next meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Opening Balance as of August 31, 2016.....	\$11,071.21
Income: .....	\$00.00
Expenses: .....	\$250.00
Balance as of September 30, 2016.....	\$10,821.21

**\*Motion:** Joseph motioned that the Treasure's report goes on record and Karen Pennell seconded the motion, all were in favor.

Bruce reported that the CC Service will put an app on our website for \$27.50/mo, in addition the CC company will take 1.5-3%.

Joseph suggested we see if we can eliminate the fee if we do the recording. Continued discussion as to the importance of this feature since most pay with check and some with cash at meetings.

Question remains how many will use the CC feature and how much more work for Bruce to process

the transactions. Joseph uses bank cards but does not have the app and eliminates the CC merchant.

Ultimately we are looking to open up this CC option in the event we hold conferences, symposiums or sell more merchandise.

Bruce will do further research on this matter.

**Corresponding Secretary:**

Some members on the mailing list got bumped back, we should keep a record of this to correct the issue.

**Community Outreach Events and Volunteers:**

Dail Reid will report next month. Laura(?) and Risa Marlen will assist with the school programs.

Dail had access to additional programs that she will discuss at the next meeting.

Joe Papa received a call from a teacher who wanted help but was not specific about the kind of assistance she was looking for. Joe will need to inform inquiries such as these as to what Master Gardeners can do to interact with the teachers but not with the students

**Garden Club Liaison:**

Nothing new to report.

**Class Liaison:**

Waiting for this assignment.

**Archivist:**

**Publicity:**

Not in attendance.

**Hospitality:**

The Athletic Club in Glen Rock is not available for the holiday party; Hank spoke to Mary at the Van Saun zoo and we can hold the party there on December 6. Kathleen has suggested the Hermitage be the venue for the party. Hank will inquire with the Hermitage to see if they have December 6<sup>th</sup> available and report back.

Hank sent around a sign-up sheet for food and beverages for the Student Breakfast.

Hank is all set for graduation.

**Membership:**

Two members have already renewed their membership. John will make some changes to the membership form and would like to add the year on the form. John will send the form to Joseph and to Janet for submission into the newsletter.

**Newsletter:**

**RMGANJ:**

The last RMGANJ meeting took place right before the Fall Conference. Most of the meeting was spent going over last minute conference tasks. At that time, there was a concern over low number of attendees. It seems that there were difficulties registering online. We will know the budget as the numbers come in after the next few meetings.

Joseph Cooper did a great job with the video presentation.

**Site Coordinator Liaison:**

Karen will keep Denise George up to date.

**Tours and Trips:**

Nothing is scheduled until April.

**Programs:**

Donna would like to know who we have had in the past, Karen will provide a list of past speakers. November's speaker is Bruce Crawford; Kim Eirman 'Eco Beneficial 101' in January; Bracco Farms in February; Chris Robino from Monrovia on New Plants in March. It was suggested that April be a joint meeting with Passaic again, Joseph agreed.

**Volunteers Records:**

Demarest should have an official name for the volunteer forms.

**Nominating Committee:**

Lida Gellman will assist Karen and Lucy. They have a nominee for VP but after calling 13 people still do not have any nominees for President. All board member should submit 2-3 names for the committee to consider as a nominee for president.

**Speakers Bureau:**

No report

**Old Business:**

Karen will order 60 Anniversary pins. Discussed using another label for the pins rather than 'Anniversary' as there may be a disruption in the consecutive years as a certified member to earn their pin. Donna Karpel indicated that the members who are entitled to a pin will be announce in the Potting Shed the spring after they are eligible and pins will be mailed.

Joel was approached by the County Executive to put a Master Gardener's banner up in the County Building, the cost would be shared by Rutgers Cooperative Extension and MGofBC.

**\*Motion:** Joseph Cooper made a motion that we contribute \$100 toward the banner, Suzanne Danzig seconded and all were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10