



Closing Balance as of Aug. 31, 2022	\$ 14,790.93
Total Outstanding checks:	0.00

Bank Statement Balance as of March 31, 2022	\$ 14,790.93
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**Motion:** Donna motioned to approve the Treasurer’s Report and Arnie seconded the motion. All in attendance voted “Yes.” - APPROVED.

**Recording Secretary – Keith Mazanec**

Keith stated that the final copy of the May 24, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes had been sent out to all Board Members for review, and that if there were no changes or questions, proposed that a motion be made to approve them.

**\*Motion:** Suzanne motioned to approve the May 2022 meeting minutes; Arnie seconded the motion. All in attendance voted “Yes.” APPROVED.

**Corresponding Secretary – Miriam Taub:**

Miriam reported two editions of the Potting Shed were each sent out in June and July; one in August; and two in September. In addition, a poll was sent out asking the membership their preference to continue to meet via Zoom or resume in-person meetings. The majority wanted to meet via Zoom until the end of the year. Donna suggested another poll be sent out so she can plan on booking space for 2023 and/or offer a Zoom option. Melody stated we should plan on resuming in-person meetings starting in January. Theresa asked if there was a game plan should a meeting fall on a day when there is inclement weather. Although it is rare, meetings have been cancelled in the past due to bad weather.

**Old Business:**

**Archivist records** – Theresa reported that all records have been delivered to the Hackensack office.

**Outreach Events** – We are looking for a “sub chair” to assist in setting up and breaking down displays when we attend one-day events. Suzanne has spoken with three people, however, no one has expressed interest thus far. Karen Riede suggested that a committee be formed to help set up these outreach events. Suzanne recommended an item be placed in the newsletter that we are looking for an assistant to coordinate the set up and breakdown of displays for outreach events.

Karen Riede stated there are two events coming up in October (8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>), that we were asked to participate in. Following a discussion, it was decided that we would not participate in either event. Karen will notify the coordinators of these events that the MG of BC will not be participating this year due to scheduling.

#### **4-H and MG of BC collaboration**

There was a discussion about what the collaboration will look like and who will be setting it up. Karen suggested a meeting be set up to include participants from the RCE, MG of BC, 4-H, Green Thumb, Joel, and any MG interested in participating. Karen will send out potential dates to appropriate individuals to coordinate the meeting.

#### **Nominating Committee**

The following slate of officers was presented to the board for consideration commencing 1/1/23:

Treasurer – Pat Vellas

Recording Secretary – Keith Mazanec

Corresponding Secretary – Miriam Taub

The slate was approved.

Keith to present the slate to the general membership at tonight's meeting.

Melody stated that we've been following the term limits for the president and vice president position as stated in the bylaws, but not for the treasurer, recording secretary or corresponding secretary. Arnie motioned that the board approve a change to the bylaws, removing term limits for the treasurer, recording secretary and corresponding secretary. Janet suggested that term limits only apply to the president and vice president. Arnie withdrew his motion. Melody motioned that Article 2, Section 3, paragraph B be amended as follows: The president and vice president may serve for no more than 2 consecutive terms. There followed further discussion on clarification of term limits.

#### **Committee Reports**

**Community outreach liaison** - Arnie reported the Speakers Bureau has been very active. Arnie and Suzanne have prepared Speakers Bureau Guidelines, which were distributed earlier to board members for their review. There were discussions on several points: Donations made to the MG association should be by check, not Venmo; specify that to be a member of the Speakers Bureau you must be an MG of BC member; post the guidelines and include them in Better Impact. Arnie will also distribute the guidelines to potential speakers. There was a discussion when Janet raised the question as to whether an individual can receive payment when speaking to a group independently, and not as a representative of the MG of BC.

**Hospitality** – Martha Carlucci

Martha reported that a lot of physical labor was involved in setting up and breaking down for the Fall Festival. Although \$200 had been budgeted for refreshments associated with the event, \$275.00 was the total spent.

**Motion:** Suzanne motioned that Martha be reimbursed the total of what she spent on the event. Arnie seconded the motion. All present voted “Yes” – APPROVED.

**Membership** – Theresa Schneider

There are currently 123 members who have paid their dues for 2022. One member claims to have sent in a check, however, there is no record of it being received. We received one inquiry about becoming a Master Gardener. Also, Kathleen Rutler is looking for a pin, however, we show no history of her being a Master Gardener.

**Newsletter** – Miriam Taub

Miriam reported that she attended the Fall Festival on both days. There were one or two people who expressed interest in writing for the Potting Shed.

- Garden Club liaison – Janet Schulz  
No report

**Programs** – Donna Faustini

Scheduled the meeting dates through May, 2023. Tonight’s speaker will be Jim Wright and Fred Carl will speak about dahlias at October’s meeting. We are currently working on firming up a speaker for November.

**Rutgers Cooperation Extension liaison** – Karen Riede

Karen reported that Kathleen Rutler graduated in 2002, and that her graduation pin was sent to her.

**RCE Report to the MG Assoc. Board Mtg. 9/20/22**

By Joel Flagler

Chancellor-Provost has approved new faculty tenure-track positions in the ANR Dept (Agriculture & Natural Resources) at Rutgers SEBS. That is OUR department; all of us-faculty, staff, MG volunteers. Both will have new search committees forming soon and hope to be filled in FY 23. Two of the new six will affect us directly:

1. Statewide Agent for Consumer Horticulture and Master Gardener Coordinator. This is fantastic as it recognizes the MG impact and also the ways ornamental plants impact our lives. IT is a dream position and if I were not retiring in two years I would pursue it myself.
2. Statewide Agent for Fruit IPM. This is also most fortunate as it allows us to promote non-chemical tactics to manage pests in the orchards and in home gardens. IPM helps us learn to rely on maximizing plant health and natural resistance to pests and minimizing our reliance on chemical use. Bergen County has one major tree fruit farm (Demarest in Hillsdale) and they have used IPM for decades, including monitoring with Rutgers scouts.

RCE Report cont...

3. New MG training cycle has been announced and Bergen has a full class queued to participate. The online delivery of classes works pretty well, while it is still much different than in-person delivery. That training will run from Jan. 17, 2023 to May 2023.
4. Also, the North Jersey Ornamental Horticulture Conference dates are set: Jan. 10, 11 and 12. The location is CCM and all should be OK if there is not a winter spike in Covid, as is widely predicted. We will have a back-up plan with online delivery if necessary. 1/10 is Turf Day, 1/11 is Tree Day, 1/12 is Landscape Day. Hold the dates, especially for Landscape Day, and join us if you can. I am Chair of Landscape Day and Karen is on the planning team. More details to come.

Karen also reported that there are 42 potential candidates for Bergen's next on-line class of Master Gardeners representing Bergen, Burlington, Essex, Passaic and Union Counties.

#### **RMGANJ report** – Herb Arbeiter

At the July 14 meeting, Nick Hendershot, RMGANJ president, introduced Nick Polanin as the new Master Gardener Coordinator, replacing Jan Zientek, who retired effective Sept. 1. The summer meetings were primarily focused on the Oct. 15 conference. The conference will be limited to 150 in-person attendees. Dr. Brian Schilling is the keynote speaker and will begin his talk at 8:15AM. Additional speakers will be Dr. Mathew Elmore who will discuss "Weeds of the Lawn," and Ms. Rebecca Magron whose presentation will be "Approaching Rutgers Master Gardener Helpline Diagnostics." Each speaker will be allotted one hour and 15 minutes with a 15 minute break in between speakers. Registration fee is \$5.00 for in-person or on-line attendance. The conference will be recorded for later viewing, however, you must be registered and have paid to view the recording. Proof of vaccination or a negative covid test within 72 hours of the event is required for attendance to the premises. Masking is optional. Attendees will receive 2 CEU hours and coffee and donuts will be served.

Someone at one of the summer meetings thought that Better Impact was difficult to navigate until it was explained to her.

#### **Site coordinator liaison** – Liz Gil

Liz sent an email to the site coordinators asking for their successes and challenges at the site. To date, about half have responded. Most of the information received remained the same. The Teaneck Creek Conservancy site remains closed.

To help promote more participation among the Master Gardeners, Liz is proposing a Site Coordinator Plant Swap (see attached).

**Volunteer Records – Suzanne Danzig**

Volunteer Records Report  
Sept. 20, 2022

To date, 62 out of 122 active members (not including our pending interns, which is another 34) have recorded hours on Better Impact; 21 of those 62 have fewer than 20 hours and 60 have not recorded hours at all this year. We need to do better than this, and it is not for lack of education or available videos on Better Impact...suggestions?

Our 62 volunteers have recorded 2,850 hours so far this year. Of those 2,850 hours; 480 are Administrative; 1,775 are Outreach sites; 168 are Special Projects; and 394 are CE hours. Of the Outreach sites, Thielke has recorded 311 hours, The Hermitage 302 hours, Garretson Forge & Farm 282 hours, McFaul 237 hours, WSG 197 hours, Butterfly & Native Garden 150 and Van Saun Park (zoo) 100 hours; the remaining sites have fewer than 30 hours to date.

Finally, there will soon be a day of reckoning: ...Who will be re-certified and who will just be dues-paying members?

In addition, Suzanne asked to please encourage people at your site to record their hours now rather than wait until the end of the year.

**Website** – Joseph Cooper (absent)  
No report given

**New Business**

Group project – plant/seed swap (see comments under Liz Gil’s Site Coordinator report).

Bylaws update – (see comments under “Nominating Committee” section).

T-shirts – TBD.

Suzanne stated the new graduates have not been recognized and that we should acknowledge their efforts in some way.

**Adjournment**

**Motion** - A motion was made by Melody to adjourn the meeting. Suzanne seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.