

**Master Gardener Association of Bergen County
Board Meeting Minutes - November 22, 2022**

Present: Hosting - Melody Corcoran, Karen Riede, Joseph Cooper, Suzanne Danzig, Theresa Schneider, Miriam Taub, Herb Arbeiter, Pat Vellas, Donna Faustini,
Absent: Arnie Friedman, Liz Gil, Keith Mazanec, Martha Carlucci

The meeting was called to order by President Corcoran at 5:40 PM

Officer Reports:

President - Melody Corcoran

No report. Mentioned that Liz Gil and Keith Mazanec would not be attending the meeting

Vice President - Elizabeth Gil

No report. Not in attendance.

Treasurer - Pat Vellas

Opening Balance as of September 30, 2022	\$ 14,456.49
Income:	\$ 645.00
(membership dues \$180, member donation \$165, speaker donation \$300)	
Expenses: (speaker fee)	(\$100.00)
Closing Balance as of October 31, 2022	\$ 15,001.49
Outstanding checks	(\$100.00)
Bank statement balance as of Oct. 31, 2022	\$ 15,101.49

Motion: Joseph Cooper motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report and Donna Faustini seconded the motion. All in attendance voted "Yes." APPROVED.

Review of Treasurer's Budget Report:

-Skyland's Holiday Open House should provide a detailed dollar amount for it's budget and work at keeping within the budget. One member of the committee should be submitting the bills, not individuals submitting to Pat. Why is MGofBC covering most of the decorating at the HOH? Many organizations have dropped out and as a result MGofBC has stepped up.

-RMGANJ expense in the past was for travel expenses, no one has been traveling for the last few years so there's been no expense but when travel resumes members should be compensated.

-Hospitality Chair should get working on the summer picnic and submit a budget for that.

-There has been a slight decline in membership for 2022

-In 2022 we received \$1000 in donations.

-Based upon the budget, in 2023 we will operate at a slight loss

Motion: Suzanne Danzig motioned to approve 2023 Budget, Joseph Cooper seconded and all in attendance voted "Yes". APPROVED

Recording Secretary - Keith Mazanec

Keith was not in attendance, Herb requested that Suzanne Danzig take minutes for tonight's meeting.

***Motion:** Joseph Cooper motioned to approve the October, 2022 Meeting Minutes; Miriam seconded the motion. All in attendance voted "Yes." APPROVED.

Corresponding Secretary- Miriam Taub

Sympathy card sent to Noreen Postman's family

Old Business:

-4H Club collaboration: Abbie has list of all MG who are interested along with Garfield Garden Club. Karen Riede gave Abbie names of board members who would like to be involved in the information meetings.

-Bylaw Changes: Copy of changes were sent to board members and discussed at meeting, we will remove the "e.g." section. Changes must be sent to membership before official change to bylaws.

Motion: Joseph Cooper motioned to approve changes as written and discussed by Melody. Donna Faustini seconded. All in attendance voted Yes. APPROVED.

Committee Reports

Community outreach liaison - Arnie Friedman

No report, not in attendance.

Hospitality - Discussed summer picnic with Martha, she will begin working on it. Martha also asked about the MG Facebook page and suggested it be taken down if not being used. Former PR chair is no longer a member and it was connected to his Facebook account.

Membership - Theresa Schneider

There are 35 paid members for 2023; We will need to update the Better Impact list as there are 123 listed as “dues paying members” but 223 on the “active list”, many of whom are no longer active members. Suzanne, Karen, Theresa and Pat will work to update list.

New members need to be reminded that once they are certified they are required to pay dues.

Newsletter - Miriam Taub

December Potting Shed is a good size. Few webinars are scheduled for December, no garden club meetings due to holidays, Edith Terzano provided a travelogue for the Potting Shed.

As we get back to in-person gatherings again, are webinar hours going to still be allowed for CE?

Rutgers Cooperation Extension liaison - Karen Riede

RCE Report to MG Association Board Meeting 11.22.22

Joel Flagler

1. The newest cycle of MG training will start Jan 17, 2023. This online delivery will include several counties including Bergen, Burlington, Essex, Passaic, and Union. The newest class of Bergen interns includes many enthused and interested individuals who are excited to begin their training and volunteering. Karen and Joel interviewed all applicants to be sure everyone had a clear picture of what the MG program entails.
2. The North Jersey Ornamental Horticulture Conference will take place on Jan 10, 11,&12, 2023. The themes for each day's training are: Turf Day, Tree Day, and Landscape Day, respectively. Please join us for Landscape Day for certain, as there will be many speakers with educational and entertaining updates that you will appreciate—including Rich Buckley, Bruce Crawford, and two newer Ag Agents, Tim Waller and Bill Errickson. Bill will focus on Native plants and Tim will speak about Phytophthora. Bruce will talk about landscaping in tough sites. Rich will talk about whatever he feels we should know in the realm of insects and disease pests. And he will do it with his typical fantastic delivery. The other two days of training will also be top quality. The fee of \$60 includes one full day of training plus a hot lunch and continental breakfast too. Registration is online and we will provide you with the link as soon as possible.
3. The NJ Nursery and Landscape Association (NJNLA) has announced that Joel is the winner of their 2022 Distinguished Service Award, marking nearly 40 years of providing training and support for the ornamental horticulture industries. They also cited Joel's work with disadvantaged and underserved groups, using horticulture as a tool for improving people's lives, both physically and mentally. They sent a crew to shoot a brief video of Joel receiving the award from Bruce Crawford, as the two walked along the shores of Lake Mohawk in Sparta, NJ. It will be posted on their site.

RMGANJ report - Herb Arbeiter

249 MGs attended the October conference, 70 in person and 179 online. All agree that data from Better Impact is critical information. Our total volunteer hours are equivalent to 40 paid staff members.

Site Coordinator Liaison - Liz Gil

No report.

Volunteer Records - Suzanne Danzig

Deadline for recording hours on Better Impact will be January 31, 2023 as the state report is due February 15, 2023.

As of November 21, 79 MG have recorded a total of 4927 hour: 3418 Outreach, 628 Administration, 628 CE, 195 Special Projects, 68 Teaching.

Garrestson 870 hours, Administration 628 hours, The Hermitage 509 hours, Thielke 501 hours, Skylands HOH 295 hours, McFaul 279 hours.

Programs - Donna Faustini

Tonight's speaker will be Anne Meore whose topic is "Therapeutic Gardens, The Natural Restorative Environment". January, (in person meeting) Michael Hagen, topic to be determined. February, unknown. March, Jason Grabosky "Leaf color changes". April, this will be a joint meeting with Passaic, Mary Josh from Digit Magazine, "Garden Tours".

New Business

Miriam questioned the cancellation of the Hackensack River Greenway through Teaneck Creek clean-up project, specifically the Mary S. Topolsky Garden, requested by Harriet Steiner. . Apparently, there was some miscommunication between Marie Warnke and Harriett. Pat Vellas indicated that a professional landscaper was going to come in with his crew to clean up.

Do we need to keep the Topolsky Garden this an official site or this just a once-off project?

Adjournment

Motion - A motion was made by Joseph to adjourn the meeting. Herb seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50PM.