

**Master Gardener Foundation of Washington State
Board Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2011**

President Judy Porterfield called the meeting to order at the Ellensburg extension office at 10:04. Judy announced that Fran Hammond has resigned as Vice President of Southwest Region and also gave a special thanks to Chris Bailey, Fran Hammond, Betty Ryan, Mary Shane, Roland Malan, and Jane Billingham for their efforts in the most recent issue of *Seeds for Thought*. Two visitors from Snohomish County, Dianne Elledge and Kathleen Eaton, and two visitors from Yakima County, Margaret Morris and Ken Tolonen, were welcomed to the meeting. **Betty Ryan motioned that the agenda for the meeting be approved. Chris Bailey seconded. Motion passed unanimously.** Treasurer Eileen Davis-Thorne said she would be sending an email with correct expenditures for her year to date report. ***Roland Malan moved that the consent calendar based on these corrections to the Treasurer's report be approved. Betty Ryan seconded. Motion passed.***

North Yakima Conservation District

Mike Tobin, from Conservation District 101, presented to the board what the purpose, scope and possibilities of what a Conservation District is and does and how his district specifically works with Yakima Master Gardeners.

2011 State Conference Update

Mary Shane spoke for the co-chairs that did not attend this meeting. To date 122 have registered. Fees will increase sometime in early August. They are expecting and can accommodate 300 participants. Registration may be opened to the public in late August if there are vacancies available. The most popular courses so far are Structural Pruning, Perennials with Purpose, and Geology of Washington. Sponsors have been sought around Grays Harbor for cash, materials/services and silent auction items. Judy pointed out there may be a logistical problem with the scheduled time of the annual meeting. The meeting will take place at 11:00- 11:30 am on Thursday, September 22, 2011.

Audit Committee Report

Roland Malan conducted the audit. He found the books to be accurate and balanced. He compared the check register to bank statements of money and

matched receipts to expenditures. He will make recommendations before the end of the year.

Consider New Approach for MGFWS Scholarships

Wide ranging discussion took place about the type of scholarships to be awarded and to whom. Interest was shown to provide monies to high school age, currently enrolled WSU juniors and seniors, and returning older students to use at vocational/community colleges. The possibility of inviting county Master Gardener Foundations to join us was considered as a possibility for increasing the value of the scholarships. The information to potential recipients needs to be sent out to the schools earlier in the school year was thought by many. Our purpose and intent for the scholarships needs examination. ***Mark Clark moved that a temporary committee be formed to explore options for revising current scholarship program. A report will be made at the July 22nd meeting. Mary Shane seconded. Approved unanimously by the board.*** Martha Clatterbaugh, JoAnne Slaybaugh, Roland Malan and Judy Porterfield volunteered as members of this committee.

Communications: Where do we go from where we are? And how?

Discussion swirled around what were the intentions of the newsletter and website. The problem with both seems to be content. Generating it and who is responsible for it. ***Mary made a motion that our newsletter's content, beginning with the August issue, will be made up of articles submitted by County programs and the WSU Program Leader. The publisher will review and select articles. The publisher will then forward this to the executive for review and editing. Kathy Brenberger seconded. The motion passed 8 yeas, 4 nays, and 2 abstentions.*** No decision was made in regards to the website.

WSU Program Leader's Report

In a discussion with Dean Linda Fox before her departure as Tonie Fitzgerald's boss it was pointed out that most faculty or administrators outside of Extension do not have the Master Gardener program on their radar. When good things happen they need to be reported loudly and when anybody is raising money outside of the system (i.e., Master Gardeners) it needs to be taken to Dean Dan Bernardo because this is "golden".

Tonie met with WSU Deputy Attorney General and asked when an MOA is required and who does it? She learned that anytime WSU is in a contract and money, goods or services are exchanged or if there is land or property involved or if there is a one time only event an MOA is necessary. Kerry Johnston has templates and she will get the signatures.

Tonie also reported that the fundraising committee has finished the letter and case statement and has been sent to Carolyn Troy. She will compile a packet. Tonie will send a letter to the coordinators and foundation presidents asking for names of potential focus group participants. There will be possibly three regional focus groups. ***Martha Clatterbaugh motioned for the meeting to adjourn. Mark Clark seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.***

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Brown, Secretary