

Mission Statement: The Mission of the Master Gardener Foundation of Washington State (MGFWS or Foundation) is to support the WSU Extension Master Gardener Program (WSU MGP) in its efforts to provide public education in gardening and environmental stewardship generated from research at WSU and other university systems through education, communication, and advocacy.

Meeting Minutes - March 14, 2014

WSU Benton County Extension Office
Kennewick, WA

Board Meeting Attendance:
(Names in **bold** attended via remote site video teleconference) President

NAME	TITLE-COUNTY	NAME	TITLE-COUNTY
Christine Bailey	President Benton-Franklin	Mary-Cathern Edwards	Secretary Kitsap
Margaret Morris	Treasurer	Betty Ryan	VP Metro
John Strong	Yakima Rep	Nicole Martini	Interim WSU MG Pgm Ldr WSU Pullman
Sharon Ballard	Pierce Rep	Kathy Brenberger	VP East
Patricia Bosh	Cowlitz Rep	Kathleen Eaton	Snohomish
Sandy Atkinson	Thurston Rep	Linda Bergquist	Whatcom Rep
Beverly Dale-Crunk	Kittitas Rep	Candice Gohn	Jefferson Rep
MaryJo Christensen	VP SW	Delores Jungert-Davison	Asotin Rep
Sherri Witt	B-F Rep	Ronda Welling	Asotin MGF Pres
Carol Mack	Pend Orielle Program Coord	Marianne Ophardt	Benton-Franklin Program Coord
Karen Tift	Snohomish	Kat Satnik	Kittitas MGF Pres
Lorraine Fritsch	Klickitat Rep	Barbard Guiland	Grant-Adams Rep
Marcia Nelson	Island Rep	Karen Russo	Grays Harbor Rep
Bob Taylor	Lewis Rep	Sandra Loskill	Pend Orielle Rep
Ken Tolenen, Guest	Yakima MG		

Christine Bailey called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

1. Introductions

Attendees signed attendance roster or dialed in via remote site video/ teleconference, and introductions were made around the room. Thank you to Benton-Franklin Counties for hosting our meeting.

MGFWS Minutes

March 14, 2014

2. Additions to, Approval of the Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by John Strong, seconded by Patricia Bosh. The motion carried.

3. Approval of Consent Calendar

A motion to accept the Consent Calendar was made by Marcia Nelson; Lorraine Fritsch seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. State MG Program Update - Nicole Martini

- Governor Jay Inslee has proclaimed the week of April 13-19, 2014, as WSU Master Gardener Volunteer Week. Discussion included a suggestion for county Master Gardener Programs to visit their state legislators during the MG Volunteer Week to promote the benefits of the MG Program. The link to the proclamation is <http://mastergardener.wsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/WSU-Master-Gardener-Proclamation-2014.pdf?78857a>
- Volunteer Satisfaction Survey – Closes March 31, 2014. There were 1,300 responses received as March 14th. Nicole said the URL to reach the poll will be reissued and asked that we encourage all MGs to take the poll. If they do, they may log 30 minutes of volunteer time. Results of the survey will be published at a later date.
- The website <http://gardening.wsu.edu/> was updated to make it easier to use. Nicole indicated they are looking at gathering feedback from Master Gardeners who have been in the program 5 or more years.
- Changes to Hortsense (<http://pep.wsu.edu/hortsense/>) are “in the works”. Money to update the site was not previously available. WSU wants to make the site compatible with I-Phones/I-Pads, more user-friendly software, easier navigation and better quality photos.
- Work to update the Volunteer Handbook has commenced. There will be a welcome statement from Nicole and civil rights language will be added.
- Training Manual Updates: Staff has started to contact the chapter authors for updates. Revisions must be peer reviewed and so the process probably won't be complete until the end of 2015. Nicole said she will try to fast-track this effort.
- The WSU College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resource Sciences has set aside funding to hire an undergraduate intern for one semester in 2014. The intern will coordinate citizen-scientist trials across the state to test vegetable varieties. The information collected will be reviewed by Dr. Carol Miles in conjunction with ongoing studies at WSU Mount Vernon Northwestern Washington Research & Extension Center <http://agsyst.wsu.edu/>. The information will be available sometime in 2015.

- An Extension Master Gardener Social Media Training Committee is looking at options to use various forms of social media, including webinars, to enhance Master Gardener communication.

5. U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award

At our October 2013 board meeting the Awards Committee (Marcia Nelson, Christine Bailey, Kathleen Eaton, Patricia Bosh and Nicole Martini) was asked to review the U.S. President's Volunteer Service Awards and make recommendations about what, if any, awards should be sponsored by the MGFWS. The award package consists of a pin, a certificate and a signed letter from the President of the United States. The cost to the MGFWS would be \$4.75 for each award, plus postage.

(To review award options, go to <http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov/index.cfm>).

After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Sharon Ballard for the MGFWS to sponsor the Gold Level of the Presidential Volunteer Service Award. The annual award would recognize Master Gardeners who have volunteered 500+ hours annually, beginning in calendar year 2013. Kathleen Eaton seconded the motion and the motion passed.

After much discussion, a motion was made by John Strong for the MGFWS to also sponsor the Presidential Call to Service Award. This award would recognize Master Gardeners who have volunteered 4000+ hours while serving as a Master Gardener volunteer. The electronic database for reporting volunteer hours was not instituted until 2009; however, we know there are many MGs who are qualified for the award. To allow those members to receive the lifetime award, County Directors or Program Coordinators may submit those names with a letter attesting to the fact they have contributed 4,000+ volunteer hours. If the county has an electronic or written record of volunteer hours prior to the institution of the state-wide database, the letter is not required. Names should be submitted to Nicole Martini. Beverly Dale-Crunk seconded the motion. The motion carried.

6. 2013 Conference Financial Report

MGFWS received \$6,826 for our share of the 2013 conference profit plus \$3,289.28 from the raffle. Snohomish County's profit was \$23,290. The attendance total was 450!! Congratulations and thank you to those Snohomish County Master Gardeners for all their work towards creating a very successful State Conference.

7. MOA 2015 WSU Master Gardener Advanced Education Conference

On January 4, 2014, Chris Bailey initiated an email call letter to approve the proposal submitted by Clark County to host the 2015 WSU Master Gardener Advanced Education Conference in Vancouver, WA. The vote resulted in the approval of the proposal. Today, the Board reviewed the Memorandum of Agreement between the MGFWS and MG FCC for the 2015 WSU Master Gardener Advanced-Education Conference scheduled for September 18-20, 2015. Kathleen Eaton made a motion to accept the MOA with Clark County. Candice Gohn seconded the motion and the motion passed.

8. Website and Webmaster

Mary Shane replaces Mark Clark as MGFWS Webmaster. Thank you Mark, and welcome Mary! Please contact Mary or Chris should you note any dated information on the website.

Retention of Board Minutes: After a brief discussion, it was agreed that MGFWS minutes would be retained on the website for three years.

9. Newsletter - Seeds for Thought

Kudos to Mary Shane for a beautiful and eye-catching newsletter. Regional Vice Presidents are reminded they are responsible to encourage their respective counties to submit articles to *Seeds for Thought*.

10. Sponsoring Scholarships to the WSU Master Gardener Advanced-Education Conference

It has been suggested the State Foundation offer scholarships to our annual conference by paying the registration fee for an attendee. Our organization has done so in the past when someone has contacted us to ask if a scholarship was available, but scholarships were not advertised. It was reported that some counties already offer scholarships, but most of the time no one applies. It was thought that perhaps paying the registration fee was not enough because the attendee still had to pay for travel and lodging, which usually runs much more than the registration fee. The topic was postponed for further discussion at a later time.

11. MGFWS Historian – Where Are You?

We still need one. If you know of anyone who may enjoy this position, please contact Christine Bailey.

12. 2014 MGFWS Tacoma Education Conference – Sharon Ballard

The most current information regarding the WSU Master Gardener Advanced-Education Conference is provided at <http://www.pc-wa-mg-conf.org/>

It was reported the Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center is assessing a table rental charge of \$25 each. Approximately 37 tables will be required for the raffle and Sharing Success displays.

Conference tours include the LeMay American Car Museum, the Boeing Museum of Flight, a visit to the Puyallup State Fair, free museums, Point Defiance Gardens, Gig Harbor demonstration gardens and Anthony's Restaurant in Gig Harbor.

13. Lunch Break

Thank you to the Master Gardeners from Benton-Franklin Counties for providing a delicious lunch.

14. Group Discussion

Candice Gohn, the new representative from Jefferson County asked questions regarding bylaws from other counties, foundation insurance requirements and the relationship of counties to the State Foundation. Information was shared and it was a good review for everyone in attendance.

15. Upcoming Board Meetings

The 2014 schedule for Board meetings is as follows: June 5 2014 in Longview – Hosted by Cowlitz County; September 18, 2014 in Tacoma (at the conference); October 24, 2014 in Vancouver – Hosted by Clark County. The meetings are held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

Mary-Cathren Edwards
Secretary

Attachment – Treasurer's Report

State Foundation Balance Sheet As of March 8, 2014

Mar 8, 14

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

		INT	MO. TERM	EXPIRATION
WSECU CD 1	4,755.27	0.3	12	3-8-14
WSECU CD 2	5,400.81	0.8	36	4-7-16
WSECU CD 3	5,519.99	2.3	48	4-7-14
WSECU CD 4	5,615.05	2.7	61	5-7-15
WSECU CD 5	5,263.20	1.45	61	7-7-17
WSECU Checking	17,388.72	0.1		
WSECU Money Market	0.15			
WSECU Savings	8,674.83	0.1		

Total Checking/Savings 52,618.02

Total Current Assets 52,618.02

TOTAL ASSETS 52,618.02

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

Opening Balance Equity	25,123.43
Unrestricted Net Assets	27,300.62
Net Income	193.97

Total Equity 52,618.02

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 52,618.02