



4th Quarter OMGA Executive Committee Meeting October 7, 2022, 4:00 pm via zoom

The meeting was called to order by President Chris Rusch at 4:05 pm, October 7, 2022.

Attending via Zoom were President Chris Rusch; Past Presidents, Sue Nesbitt and Eric Bosler; Treasurer, Janet Magedanz, Historian, Linda Coakley; Data Base/List Serve, Seamus Ramirez, OSU Extension Program Coordinator, Gail Langellotto, Ann Kinkley, newsletter editor and Linda Coakley, historian.

Welcome, Approval of Minutes, Agenda - Chris

Chris welcomed everyone. The minutes were approved as presented. There were no additions to the agenda.

OSU Extension Program Coordinator – Gail Langellotto

Sherry Sheng and Chris Rusch had a meeting with Dr. Lyles and he asked: How do we determine the needs of Master Gardener program based on their needs? Extension received three positions in the Extension Budget ASK to the legislation for the coming fiscal year. The fact that Dr. Lyles listened and put the positions in the budget is huge. A thank you to Dr. Lyles. Dr. Lyles is responding to our advocacy group.

Financial Reports – Janet Magedanz

Janet asked the committee to refer to the 2023 amendment #2 budget

Line 13: Can we lower our liability expense? Janet will ask professional groups she belongs to.

Line 23: Can we get better deal on website management?

Line 29: Increase travel by \$3,000 for future board meetings

Line 41: Increase educator grant

Line 46: Dues – Decided to keep at \$5 this year and increase in 2024.

There was discussion on declining membership, concern with meeting expenses, and where we might economize. The webmaster expense was discussed. Janet and Eric will research options.

Eric moved to approve budget as presented and forward to membership. Seamus seconded. All approved.

Janet will send out information to chapter treasurers with hints regarding bookkeeping and will update information that is sent out to the treasurers.

Historian – Linda Coakley

Linda completed 2017 and will do 2016 (only three more to go).

Newsletter – Ann Kinkley

Gardener's Pen was sent out this week and covered advocacy and an upcoming chapter event that was sent to Ann. Winter 2023 will be sent in early February. Deadline for submissions is the end of January.

By-laws Committee - Chris

By-laws committee has begun discussion and will present a proposal for changes at the November Board of Directors meeting on November 4, 2022.

Two new appointed positions will be added to the Executive Committee: DEI Task Force representative and head of the Master Gardener Advocacy Group (one of our main missions).

Sue moved to add these appointed positions be added to the Executive Committee. Janet Magedanz seconded and the motion passed.

Mini-College - Chris

Chris discussed the Joy of Gardening conference survey and presented a slide show: Do we do mini-college in 2023 or not? We are living with an MOA that says annual mini-college. Discussion of possibilities and options followed. Since our MOA requires an annual mini-college, decision was made to approve it for next year, with format details and location to be determined later by the Mini-college committee.

Janet made a motion to have a 2023 Mini-college, Eric seconded the motion and it was approved.

MOU with OSU - Chris

Chris noted that the last signed copy of the MOA is from 2018. It automatically renews through 2030, unless terminated by either party. rolls over and we voted to renew it. We can do it three times for three consecutive years and will not need to do it again until 2030.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion – Chris

OMGA's role in supporting diversity, equity, and inclusion was discussed. This important work is being undertaken by a task force of Master Garden members from all corners of the state. The mission of the OSU Master Gardener's program is to "cultivate resilient and health communities throughout Oregon through sustainable horticulture education and gardening projects that are rooted in science." Just as a healthy garden is biodiverse, so too is a healthy gardening program. We have four focus areas: curriculum, a demographic survey, Seed to Supper programs, and communication and special events.

The executive committee approved adding a position to our executive board to advocate for this important work.

Advocacy Task Force – Chris

We discussed the Advocacy Task Force and the Master Gardener Committee appointed by Dr. Lyles, Vice Provost of Extension. The task force will focus on securing financial and other support for the OSU Master Gardener program. Targeted audiences include the OSU Administration (President, Provost, Vice President, Dean of Agricultural Sciences, and Director of Extension Services), elected officials at the local level (county commissioners and administrators), State of Oregon legislators, and others. The Master Gardener committee will focus on developing a needs assessment for our state-wide program, to be presented to Dr. Lyles in June, 2023.

We will hold elections in November. Chapters should seek members from their rolls to consider executive positions.

Meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Minutes by Ann Kinkley and Chris Rusch