



OREGON MASTER GARDENER™ ASSOCIATION

## 2024 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Executive Committee Meeting

February 2, 2024, 3 PM via zoom

The meeting was called to order by President Chris Rusch at 3 pm. Attendees were Chris Rusch, President; Leslie Ray, Vice President; Eric Bosler, Past President, Janet Magedanz, Treasurer; Linda Coakley, Historian; Missy Bright Database/List Serve; Laura Strom, Advocacy Task Force Committee; Ann Kinkley, Newsletter, and Dr. Leslie Madsen, State Coordinator

We held our 1<sup>st</sup> quarter OMGA Executive Board meeting this past Friday, February 2, via zoom. Our meeting agenda was full. Here are some highlights:

This was the first OMGA meeting for our new Statewide Master Gardener Coordinator Dr. Leslie Madsen. Dr. Madsen was an Associate Director for Educational Development in the Center for Teaching and Learning at Boise State University. She is an expert in evidence-based teaching practices that are informed by emerging technologies including different learning styles in the age of Artificial Intelligence (AI), as they apply to formal and informal learning platforms. She is equipped to support our coordinators and volunteers, support both face-to-face and distant learning, support DEI efforts across programs, conduct educational assessment, evaluation, and implementation, and support various digital accessibility technologies. Welcome Dr. Madsen.

OMGA Treasurer, Janet Magedanz gave a financial report for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter to date. Janet asked for a motion to approve upcoming CD deposits. All approved.

We discussed our 2024 OMGA Joy of Gardening Conference scheduled for July 12 and 13, 2024. SAVE THE DATE! We are in the planning stage now. Our keynote speakers include Sherry Sheng and Gail Langellotto representing the Garden Ecology League and Silvia Rondon from the Oregon IPM Center. We have over 20 speakers lined up covering a wide variety of topics. If you are interested in joining the planning committee, please send me an email. Our next planning meeting will be February 12 at 1 PM via zoom.

Ann Kinkley reported that our first edition of the Gardener's Pen for 2024 will be out soon. Linda Coakley reported that her historian updates almost completed. An enormous task. Laura Strom gave an update from our advocacy committee. Missy Bright has continued to keep our data base current. Chris reviewed the grand and award opportunities offered by OMGA to all chapters. Applications are due May 15. Be sure to check these out on our website at: [omga.org](http://omga.org).

Leslie Ray presented our documents for "Conflict of Interest" and Whistle Blower reporting". This is all part of our new and revised Policies and Procedures that we reviewed as a first reading at our November meeting to be voted on at the March 1 First Quarter OMGA BOD meeting.

We reviewed our new 2024 OMGA draft goals. The executive board approved and recommended approval at our March 1 meeting. They are attached.

Lastly, we have a big ask. We need to fill our OMGA secretary position. All members are asked to make this terrific opportunity known to their membership. Thank you.

That's all I have. Thank you everyone for your patience and support. Take care of each other.

Chris Rusch

OMGA President

[crusch3837@gmail.com](mailto:crusch3837@gmail.com)

541-825-3837