OMGA Q3 Board Meeting
September 4, 2026 3:30-5:30p via Zoom

Agenda Item	Discussion/Notes		Discussion Leader
Welcome, Agenda Review	Chris opened the meeting at 3:30p with a roll call. President - Chris Rusch President Elect - Shelby Schuppe Vice President - Leslie Ray Past President - Eric Bosler Treasurer - **Vacant** Secretary - Lindsey McNab Historian - Linda Coakley Newsletter - Ann Kinkley Database/List Serve - **Not Present** Advocacy - Lee McKenzie OSU Coordinator - Leslie Madsen	Benton - Katherine Whiting Central Gorge - Eric Bosler Central Oregon - Patty DeGaetano Clackamas - Barb Seekins & Tina Mori Clatsop - Amy Rens Columbia - Karen Harte & Katrina Clift Coos - Lynn Menashian Curry - Cindy Meyers Douglas - Chris Rusch Jackson - Colet Allen & Erin Galbraith Josephine - **Not Represented** Klamath - **Not Represented** Lane - Patty Driscoll Lincoln - Trish Riley & Stormi Dykes Linn - **Not Represented** Malheur - **Not Represented** Marion - Stacy Moranville Multnomah - Nicky Ulrich & Rich Becker Polk - Rebecca Jay Tillamook - Wendy Kunkel & Alice Danta Umatilla - **Not Represented** Wasco - Paulann Knight Washington - Debra Hansen Yamhill - Linda Coakley	President Chris Rusch
Agenda Review & Additions	No changes or additions		All

Approval of Q4 Minutes	All previous meeting minutes can be viewed on the OMGA website. https://omga.org/minutes-and-reports/ Approval of 2026 Q2 Board Minutes **Rebecca Jay moved to approve the 2026 Q2 Board Minutes, Katherine Whiting seconded. None opposed. Motion passed.**	All
Reports/Information		
OSU Extension Program Coordinator Report	• Dr. Madsen shared and went over the following notes she compiled for her report. ○ Dr. Madsen's Notes ← **CLICK TO VIEW** • Chris reminded everyone to include their food donations in the Quarterly Reports.	Dr. Leslie Madsen

Q3 Financial Report	• Treasurer Patrice Sipos resigned. There is no Q3 Financial Report to share at this time.
	• The search for a new Treasurer is ongoing.
	  ○ If anyone is interested in taking over this position please contact Chris — crusch3837@gmail.com.
	  ○ Treasurer job description ← **CLICK TO VIEW**
	• OMGA will contract out the taxes this year.
	• Question was raised on whether the QuickBooks account can be accessed by the counties — Shelby Schuppe confirmed yes, it should allow access for all.
		Chris

Database/List Serve	• ListServe Manager Missy Bright was not present. • President Rusch reiterated the importance of keeping the ListServe current by sending any changes in leadership within your association to Missy — outsideastoria@gmail.com.	Chris
Gardener's Pen Newsletter	• The next edition of the Gardener's Pen will come out in the next couple of weeks and will include the update Leslie just shared. • Additional topics to include: the 50-ton food donation goal, diversity programs, a possible volunteer hub article, OSU Awards, Growing & Belonging, and the search for a new treasurer. • Chapters were asked to send in images from their county for inclusion. • Editor Kinkley will check in on quarterly reports. • Chris will send Ann photos from the Joy of Gardening Conference. • Chapters can email Ann directly with newsletter content if they have anything to share or contribute. • Chris asked everyone to share the newsletter widely with their chapters. • If you have any suggestions on topics to include in any future edition send them to Ann — gardenerspen@gmail.com.	Editor Ann Kinkley

	ACTION ITEM: Please remember to send the OMGA Gardeners Pen newsletter out to your chapters.	
Historian's Report	• Historian Coakley had no updates to share.	Historian Linda Coakley
Website Working Group Report	• Vice President Ray had nothing new to report. • The committee will begin tracking the number of hits and what content is being viewed. • Photos from JOG are needed to replace the current ad on the site.	Vice President Leslie Ray
Joy of Gardening Conference	• Chris thanked everyone who helped make this a very successful conference. • The conference closed about $3,000 in the green, with positive evaluations from attendees. ○ Evaluation results ← **CLICK TO VIEW** • Approximately 230 people registered. • The silent auction raised just under $6,000. A chapter-by-chapter breakdown is available. If you'd like your chapter's total email Shelby Schuppe – shelby.e.schuppe@gmail.com	Chris & Shelby
OMGA Grants	• $10,000 in grants was awarded; the award document is posted on the website. ○ Award Results **<— CLICK TO VIEW**	Chris
Growing & Belonging Working Group Report	• The group meets on a monthly basis. • A continuous Google Doc with updated Growing & Belonging info has been created. • Including Growing & Belonging info in chapter reports continues to be a working item. • Wildfire resources were cited as an example of successful resource sharing across chapters. • The group is developing training on volunteer management and community engagement — send thoughts and ideas to Shelby. • Discussions are still ongoing on how to share resources more widely. • At Colet Allen's request, the group will provide a quarterly bulleted list of discussion topics. • Chris noted the group could offer trainings to OMGA and chapters on topics like cultural compliance and bias. • Shelby asked Dr. Madsen about recertification — 10 CE hours are required every year, and one of those must be a Growing & Belonging credit.	Shelby Schuppe

	• **ACTION ITEM:** If anyone is interested in getting involved in the Growing & Belonging Working Group, please reach out to Shelby — shelby.e.schuppe@gmail.com.	

Seed to Supper Working Group Report	• Lindsey McNab gave an overview of the program and discussed transitioning/passing on leadership of the working group.
	• On book costs: an artist has been hired (through Dr. Madsen), though a final number isn't available yet, as OSU printing prices have risen significantly. Chapters are encouraged to take the digital file and print locally. On track for a November 15th completion.
	  ○ Eric Bosler raised the idea of OMGA assisting a chapter that needs help with resources through a grant or cost-share arrangement.
	  ○ Neighboring counties can also partner together to share resources.
		Lindsey McNab

Advocacy	• Advocacy Chair Lee McKenzie met with Heidi at OSU. • A webinar is being planned for mid-November to cover the legislative process and what Master Gardeners can do. • Lee would like other MGs involved in Legislative Day, including going out and meeting with legislators.	Lee McKenzie
MOAs with OSU	• OMGA has an MOA, but individual counties have special circumstances that require their own MOAs as well. • The process is currently paused while Dr. Madsen works to finalize the language. • The end goal is for all chapters to have an MOA in place. • A working group is in place to help counties and OSU through the process. If you are interested in joining the group email Chris — crusch3837@gmail.com or Shelby – shelby.e.schuppe@gmail.com. • OMGA MOA ← **CLICK TO VIEW**	Chris
New Business		

Chapter Governance & Policies	• Chapters should understand their governance responsibilities — there are policies that must be followed and equitably implemented.
	• Some policies need updating (e.g., whistleblower policy). Chapters should review and update their policies and bylaws, and take appropriate minutes when they do.
	• Resources shared **(CLICK EACH ITEM TO VIEW)**
	  ○ The Secretary of State's nonprofit resources
	  ○ The Nonprofit Association of Oregon
	  ○ The Guide to Being a Master Gardener Volunteer
	  ○ The Code of Conduct
	• Dr. Madsen noted associations should review OMGA policies, OSU policies, and local policies — OMGA and OSU work together but
		Chris & Shelby

	remain distinct. Associations often struggle with handling difficult situations, so the Code of Conduct also needs to be reviewed and addressed.	
Executive Board Job Descriptions	• Job descriptions for the executive board need to be reviewed and updated — a committee will be formed to take this on. • Chapters were encouraged to do the same for their own boards; some counties already do this yearly.	Chris
JOG Conference 2027	• The group affirmed wanting to continue JOG as an annual conference, with a goal of keeping the registration fee lower. • Proposed date: July 16 & 17, 2027, pending availability. • Need to check for conflicts with the County Fair and Special Olympics dates. • The Executive Committee was empowered to make the final decision on the date.	Chris
Next OMGA Meeting	Executive Board Meeting — **October 2 at 3:30pm** General Board Meeting — **November 6 at 3:30pm** • Quarterly Reports are due prior to the day of the meeting. • Reports should be sent to Secretary Lindsey McNab — lindseykmcnab22@gmail.com. • Quarterly Report Guidelines **<—CLICK TO VIEW** **Meeting adjourned at 5:15pm**	Chris

Respectfully Submitted By *Lindsey McNab*, 2026 OMGA Secretary