OMGA Q4 Executive Board Meeting
October 2, 2026 3:30-5:30p via Zoom

Agenda Item	Discussion/Notes	Discussion Leader
Welcome, Agenda Review	**President Rusch opened the meeting 3:30pm** **PRESENT:** President - Chris Rusch Vice President - Leslie Ray President Elect - Shelby Schuppe Past President - Eric Bosler Secretary - Lindsey McNab Treasurer - Vacant Historian - Linda Coakley Newsletter - Ann Kinkley Advocacy - Lee McKenzie OSU Prog Coor. - Leslie Madsen **ABSENT:** Database/List Serve - Missy Bright	Chris Rusch
Agenda Review & Additions	**The agenda that had been emailed in advance was reviewed; no additions were requested and the agenda was approved.** **The presentation from the Coordinator Working Group was taken off of the agenda and moved to a later date.**	All
Approval of the Q3 Executive BOD Meeting Minutes	Minutes are on the website **<— CLICK TO VIEW** **Secretary Lindsey McNab made a motion to approve the Q3 Executive Board Meeting Minutes, Vice President Leslie Ray seconded, motion passed.**	All
Reports/Information		
OSU Extension Program	• **Coordinator Working Group Presentation:** Dr. Madsen will circle back to a presentation on "what is a Master Gardener volunteer"	Dr. Leslie Madsen

Coordinator's Report	from the coordinators. The group wants an actual volunteer on the working group first (Shelby Schuppe and Chris Rusch offered to join) and more conversation before presenting to OMGA. Target: January/February, to the executive board. ● **Extension Annual Conference:** Held this week. Master Gardeners were very well represented among the awards, as were many extension faculty. ● **Events:** Dr. Madsen reported attending Hood River's garden tour (wonderful and well attended) and Lane County's 50th anniversary celebration (tomato tasting, seed swap, and more). ● **Disaster Preparedness:** A major conference theme was how to integrate resources and programming around disaster preparedness, for example within Seed to Supper. Dr. Madsen will email suggestions. ● **Seed to Supper:** On track for a November 15 launch, at least for the English-language version. ● **Blog:** Currently down because all OSU WordPress sites are down; cause not yet known. ● **Youth Protection:** There is a big campus push, and a guide is being developed for Extension employees and, eventually, volunteers. Master Gardener faculty were not involved in the process initially, but OSU is open to feedback, and Dr. Madsen will be working on that. An email went to all coordinators to confirm everyone is current on requirements. ○ The group was reminded that youth events require 30 days' notice with a list of attendees, because the request passes through many offices for approval. This especially affects chapters with associate or "friends of" members who may lack background checks and are not in the OSU system. ● **MOAs:** Dr. Madsen met with the people best able to address OMGA's concerns. OMGA can speak directly with Marlee Richter (marlee.richter@oregonstate.edu). OSU is attempting a boilerplate MOA with addenda for each county's specific needs. ○ Key question: Could OMGA sustain oversight of chapters without MOAs, or should the MOAs let OSU keep that oversight? The main recent issue is misunderstanding about who governs and monitors whom. ■ Chris noted it is not reasonable to assume OMGA can provide the level of oversight needed, so Coordinators and OSU should do it. ■ OSU is working to correct information flows. ○ Shelby Schuppe and Leslie Ray suggested a workshop or webinar on youth protection with examples of gray-area situations. ○ Eric Bosler asked about degrees of interaction with youth; Dr. Madsen shared a resource, plus two additional links, Policy Updates and the Direct Engagement definition. Chris asked that these be posted on the website under Resources.	

	■ Youth Protection Flow Chart **<— CLICK TO VIEW** ■ Policy Updates **<— CLICK TO VIEW** ■ Direct Engagement Definition **<— CLICK TO VIEW**	
Q4 Financial Report YTD Highlights	• OMGA is currently seeking a Treasurer. There is no Q4 Financial Report. • Treasurer Job Description **<— CLICK TO VIEW**	Chris
Database/List Serve	• Missy Bright was not present. • President Rusch notes that a new database manager is needed. Missy is stepping down from the Listserv and will try to find someone to take it over. ○ Shelby asked whether a form should be created to collect information from chapters; Chris noted a form already exists for gathering officer information.	Chris
Newsletter	• A new edition is out; members are asked to review and share it. ○ Fall Newsletter **<— CLICK TO VIEW** • The board thanked Ann for the great newsletter.	Ann Kinkley
Historian	• Historian Coakley had nothing new to report.	Linda Coakley
Joy of Gardening	• The group was reminded that at the Q3 Board Meeting the Executive Board was given the power to make a decision on the date for the 2027 conference. • Chris contacted the Alumni Center about July dates, but another party was holding them. She is waiting to hear what other dates are available. ○ Linda noted that a possible alternative is the venue next door to the Alumni Center.	Chris
Growing & Belonging Working Group	• The group met September 15 and discussed representative reports, compiling what chapters are working on, and Seed to Supper. • The October meeting will revisit these topics, and Shelby will give a short presentation on community engagement in an ethical manner. • The workgroup is very interested in more trainings for the workgroup and the broader member base, and is working with a community partner, the Multicultural Collaborative, on this. • A new chair is needed for the group, since Shelby will soon become president. • Chris believes a Growing & Belonging training for all members would be very beneficial; she noted that she receives many questions about Growing & Belonging.	Shelby Schuppe
Seed to Supper Working Group	• Meeting options for a fall meeting have been sent out. The goal is to have everyone talking in late October/early November ahead of the	Shelby Schuppe

	November 15 launch, including a conversation about filling the chair position.	
MOA Working Group	• The working assumption for the role of this group was to work from a template and advise on recommendations. • Several volunteers have offered to help, but with little information available the group has not yet engaged. The group will work to get started within the next couple of weeks. • Dr. Madsen suggested inviting Marlee Richter to attend. • Anyone who wants to be involved should let Chris know — crusch3837@gmail.com.	Chris
Advocacy	• An advocacy training with Heidi from OSU is set for November 12 at 3:30 PM. It is open to all Master Gardeners and will be recorded. • An interest form for advocacy has been created, with registration in the newsletter, and an article was published in the newsletter. ○ Registration Link **<— CLICK TO VIEW** • Leslie Ray asked to share the lobbying policy to get feedback on the wording. Lee noted it will be discussed further in the training.	Lee McKenzie
New Business/Discussions		
Chapter Governance Responsibilities	• This will be a continual focus through the end of the year. • All chapters should review and update their governance documents and make them available to the public.	Chris
Job Descriptions	• These are currently still under review.	Chris
Search for new Treasurer	• OMGA has been unable to find a Treasurer. The board discussed whether the position could be contracted out. • Dr. Madsen will send the job description to the coordinators to ask for interested people.	Chris
2027 Executive Board Nominees	• President - Shelby Schuppe • Vice President - Leslie Ray • President Elect - Vacant • Past President - Chris Rusch • Secretary - Lindsey McNab • Treasurer - Vacant	Chris
2027 Strategic Planning	• The board agreed a working group should be formed first to discuss the goals, before submitting to the whole group. • Chris will announce this at the November Board Meeting and ask who wants to join.	Chris

Next OMGA Meetings	**Meeting adjourned at 5:27pm** **General Board Meeting - November 6, 2026 3:30-5:30pm**	Chris

Respectfully Submitted By Lindsey McNab, 2026 OMGA Secretary