



MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION OF KING COUNTY

BOARD MEETING

Thursday, June 9, 2022, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Attending:

Jim Olson, C. Hill, B. Caredio, B. Williams, S. O'Byrne, T. Bloor, TJ Johnson, P. Fordyce, L. Provost, D. Schlessler (guest), Linda Peterson, Amy Lee

Absent:

none

Meeting was called to order

- Meeting was called to order @ 7:04 p.m.
- Guests welcomed: Linda Petersen, new Board candidate
- Jim welcomed new board member Lin Provost
- Jim announced that John Sykes had resigned his board position to Jim earlier in the day.
- May meeting minutes were unanimously approved with spelling corrections.
- TJ volunteered to be Secretary for today's meeting.

Vote on Linda Petersen for Board Membership – Jim

- Jim placed Linda in a waiting room while the attending Board Members voted on her membership.
- The vote was unanimous by all attending members.
- Linda was invited back in from the waiting room.
- By request the attending board members did a round-table introduction of themselves to Lin and Linda.

BDG Donation - Bruce C

- Bruce reported on the circumstances surrounding a donation offer made by one huge BDG fan (Courtney). Courtney offered to purchase discounted, damaged bags of soil as a donation to the garden.
- BDG was reluctant but eventually accepted and the donation was purchased and delivered by Courtney and Tia.
- Bruce thinks we should consider encouraging people who want to donate discounted construction materials.
- Bruce W suggested that this would make a good article for the Newsletter. Bruce C will follow up on this.

Program Coordinator hiring status – Jim

- There have been five candidates thus far, three were not acceptable as they did not meet the minimum standards/requirements for the job
- Jim and Daryl will be among those to interview the two candidates soon (no date yet scheduled).



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- Trish asked if the two candidates are current KCMG's, per Jim, one of them is.
- Phil is concerned about the delay in hiring and suggested some cajoling; Jim said that the 3 WSU people in charge of the process are very busy, however, he will keep pressure on them.

Education Strategic Assessment Team update - Bruce W.

- Committee is working on CE for all MG's.
- Christina Pfeiffer was mentioned as an excellent candidate for a training event; she recently gave a session on "Summer Soil Care and Moisture Management" which was well received and is being recommended as more "advanced and technical;" Her honorarium is \$300 for Zoom, in person requires travel and mileage.
- Jim mentioned that we already have a venue at Bellevue Botanical for one day a month.
- Bruce will follow up.

Program Update Carrie

- PLT discussed 50th Anniversary for next year – an endowed faculty chair is planned with aspirations to raise 1.5 million.
- Jennifer is hosting "Monthly Call" meetings; these are to discuss WSU MG mission-driven efforts. Next call in on June 23rd.
- 2023 Intern Training planning needs to get underway; we hope to enlist some volunteers for the program to see if we can "chunk up" the tasks; The email will go out next week, but there is work that needs to be done in advance of the September 21st kick-off.
- Program priorities have been added to the clinic planning meetings but so far not a lot of information sharing; we are required to collect data on each question and categorize against one of the 9 WSU Priorities (not just clinics but gardens too); Also need to map all our activities these priorities.
- Service Award not yet issued (5 year, etc.); these were not issued in 2020 or 2021
- Veteran Master Gardeners may have trouble getting their hours; we are working to get some group activities to help with this. Bruce suggested perhaps that Education Programs might provide an opportunity for these Vets.
- Jim expressed concerns about getting this all done since we have lost our Program Coordinator.
- Question: What are other counties doing to Map these "Priorities"?

Treasurer's Report - TJ

- Not a lot of activity this month; expenses are down and will be going down even further with Mary's departure (i.e., the Coordinator Salary).
- Have just received some Garden expense reports and expect more as the season heats up.



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- Included a breakdown report of the Investments which TJ will continue to do; however, as per the Investment Policy, it is the board's decision as to whether to take any further action.
- TJ is doing her best to categorize donations made in response to the email Appeal that went out, but we do get donations all year so at best it will include the flurry of donations that have been directed to the PayPal site following the email request. Suzi inquired whether Alums were included in the solicitation – per Jim, they were but they had to be hand curated from Constant Contact and this requires a lot of work.

Board and Committee participation – Jim

- Jim reminded all that he, Carrie and Amy will all hit their term limits in 2023; we currently have openings for a Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Succession Planning needs to begin—we need to get more people involved in the foundation. (UPDATE: The board voted via email (after the board meeting) on a candidate for Treasurer who was unanimously accepted. Nancy Marshall will be officially voted in at the next meeting).
- Jim mentioned that TJ will stay on as a board member (just not as Treasurer)

Director and Officer Insurance – Jim

- Jim asked to revisit this insurance as it is only ~\$500/year and we have already lost 2 potential Treasurer candidates.
- There is some confusion about where the liability insurance we already pay for, and the D&O insurance kick in.
- Suzi and Amy both recommended we support
- The motion to pursue this insurance was moved and Trish seconded; the vote was 9-1 in favor of purchasing. The motion was accepted.
- TJ will follow-up with the insurance company asap.

Look ahead - Jim

1. Advanced Education Conference (AEC) – raffle items request
 - Jim reminded that we used to support this event every year, but it was suspended due to Covid; Jim suggests we send a donation of \$250 for this CE event, it will garner good will and we will get publicity as a “Bronze Sponsor”.
 - A motion was made for the donation, and it was seconded; The vote was unanimous.
 - Phil also mentioned that his wife has a quilt she had wanted to donate, Jim will let Phil know who to contact for this donation.
2. September BBG event
 - The normal BBG Fall event is set for 9/11/2022 @ Bellevue Botanical Garden.
 - We need someone to lead this event (or we need to cancel our reservation).
 - Linda Peterson agreed to chair the event; Jim said he would contact Kirby to get information regarding all the tasks and contacts for the 2021 event.



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3. Program Office future

This topic was not discussed as we ran out of time.

The meeting was Adjourned @ 8:36 with a reminder from Jim to recruit a Board Member recruit, and/or volunteer to be an Officer.