



MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION OF KING COUNTY

BOARD MEETING MEETINGS

Thursday, May 11, 2023, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Attendees: Jim Olson, Carrie Hill, TJ Johnson, Phil Fordyce, Amy Lee, Sarah Moore, Lin Provost, Linda Peterson, Suzi O’Byrne, Bruce Caredio, Bruce Williams, Trish Bloor.

Absent: Nancy Marshall.

Guests: Joe Jennings, Gary Scheider, Darryl Schlessler.

7:00 Call to Order (Jim)

- Guests today: Joe Jennings, Gary Scheider, Darryl Schlessler.
- Minutes for April meeting were approved. Phil motioned, Jim seconded, and there was unanimous approval voted by all attending members.

7:05 Program Update (Sarah)

- **Hiring update:** Nora Larsen has accepted the Program Assistant role. Starts June 7. Previous work experience with outdoor volunteers removing invasive species, loves plants and gardening. Introductions will be scheduled shortly. Based in Tukwila.
- **Clinic leadership update:** working on restructuring of roles, including a regional structure of clinic groups that are geographically near each other.
- **Education update:**
 - June 23 diagnostic training day – 2 sessions, in person, BBG.
 - In-person classes at City of Shoreline, South King County food coalition are coming up. Need to make sure enough trainers are secured to support sustainable growth.
 - Advanced Education Conference (AEC) scheduled in Tacoma in Fall – Sarah encourages attendance from all.
- **Extension updates:**
 - Alyssa Bowers starts June 1 as new leader.
 - New office space in the Extension building is available to KCMG – still need to measure the space.
 - The storage shed at CUH needs to be inventoried.

7:XX Treasurers Report (Nancy)

- Not available this month.

7:15 Development Update (Joe)

- Invitation sent for Monday, 5/15, 7pm meeting to discover development findings. Informational Q & A opportunity.
- Need to think about how to respond to various city requests for classes and how to implement them. For example, we sold 8 classes for \$6000 to Shoreline City, but have a scarcity of lecturers and time.



MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION OF KING COUNTY

7:22 Fundraiser status (Jim)

- **BDG Plant Sale**
 - \$3000 of plants (net) were sold at pre-sale on Wednesday, 5/10. This looks promising for the main sale this coming Saturday.
- **Spring Appeal Email (TJ)**
 - Draft Spring Appeal Letter was sent out to the board prior to the meeting. Joe prepared it. Jim proposed we vote on whether to send out the letter.
 - Joe suggested a one-time URL via Paypal to track & quantify the funds raised.
 - The board voted unanimously in support of sending the email.
 - TJ received the following comments regarding the draft:
 - Too many financial numbers in there. You should order the numbers so people can see what the biggest expenses are.
 - Question about \$8274 MG expenses
 - Why are we listing the WSU monies since it has nothing to do with the budget?
 - Clarify that personnel expenses are for WSU wages, because the Foundation is fully staffed by volunteer MGs.
 - The foundation board does not have a vision, exists purely to raise funds for the program.
 - Is the repetition of the PS statement helpful or valuable.
 - Could the 100% participation requirement be offensive to some people?
 - Jim asked for further comments to be sent to Joe for consideration prior to finalizing and distributing the email to all members.
 - Suzie applauded Joe for his energy and all the work he has put in.

7:55 Speakers Bureau Mileage Policy Proposal (Lin)

- Lin sent out the PDF draft proposal, including the URL for the IRS mileage information, and removed personal names and replaced with the officer title (Treasurer). The policy will now be finalized and uploaded to the Drop box to share with people going forward.

8:00 Annual Meeting Recognition Event Date (Jim)

- This meeting is typically held in the 3rd week of Oct at BBG. They have given us the opportunity to hold it on Saturday this year, instead of Sunday. This could coincide with Seahawks and Huskies games, affecting traffic. TJ moved that we select Saturday, Bruce W seconded. Lin voted against it as there might be issues for sports fans. The majority voted yes. Gary will notify Colin.

8:20 Election and Director Transition Update (Jim)



MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION OF KING COUNTY

- We are in uncharted territory with the unique circumstance where President, VP and secretary are not moving across into the new board.
- Timeline: outgoing board – June 1, incoming board – June 1.
- New officers will need an orientation on a tight timeline before the next board meeting on June 8. Lin agreed to lead the orientation meeting. Voting closes next Monday (5/15).
- Incoming board member (TBC), Gary Scheider, will set up a poll to survey availability of new members to attend the orientation meeting as soon as possible.

8:20 Emergent items (All)

- Jim thanked “the Bruces” for their first terms on the board, and Carrie (for three years in officer roles and numerous other responsibilities), and Amy (for one year in an officer role). Everyone thanked Jim for his leadership.

8:30 Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: Thursday, June 8, 2023, 7 pm to 8:30 pm, on Zoom