



# MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION OF KING COUNTY

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 8, 2024, 7:05 p.m. – 8:35 p.m.

Zoom Meeting - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88172076722> Meeting ID: 881 7207 6722

One tap mobile - +12532158782,,88172076722#

Dial in - +1 253 215 8782 Meeting ID: 881 7207 6722

**Directors In Attendance:** Joan Baldwin, Joe Jennings, Trish Bloor, Matt Jennings, Nancy Marshall, Daryl Schlessler, Phil Fordyce, TJ Johnson, Suzi O’Byrne, Dawn Rubstello, Lin Provost, Gary Scheider; Linda Peterson

**Guests:** Sarah Moore

### **Agenda**

7:00 Call to Order (Joan).....5 minutes

- Welcome – Joan recognized guests in attendance.
- Approve January 2024 Minutes – Joe moved to approve; Lin seconded; minutes approved, with minor corrections made by Phil.

7:05 President’s Report (Joan).....15 minutes

- Joan noted the Communications Team is working on developing a plan to handle external media requests and contacts. The team is looking at examples from other counties and will be coordinating with WSU. Most likely there will be one point person to receive media requests. Joan noted that the team will reach out to the Seattle Times to discuss upcoming opportunities.
- Garden of Opportunities – there will be an article in the February newsletter for an event in September.
- Annual Meeting – The meeting was well attended, and we have received positive feedback. Feedback included an appreciation for more financial transparency and having a balanced budget.
- WSU MOA – The second round of review with the WSU is underway.
- Joint Counties Forum – The meeting was successful. There was a good exchange of ideas and lessons learned were shared. It was noted that Joan did a great job hosting the meeting.
- Speakers for MG Fall Statewide Annual Meeting – Joan noted that a request for speakers has been made. Suggestions will be offered to the statewide committee for consideration.
- Shoreline Grant Application – We have applied for a grant for 2024.
- Joan discussed the need to come up with ideas for new plant sales. The focus will likely be on smaller sales located around the county. More to come.



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- 7:20 Development Committee Update (Joe).....20-minutes
- Refer to material distributed prior to the meeting.
  - Joe provided a brief overview of where the different sources of income come from.
  - Planning for the Spring appeal is underway.
  - The idea of creating an opportunity for people who attend training classes to donate to the Program was discussed. This discussion included adding opportunities in the newsletter and other options as well. The Communications Team, along with Trish, will follow up with the Technology Team to create these donation opportunities.
- 7:40 Program Update (Sarah).....20 minutes
- Sarah focused her presentation on how the budget for Intern Training is related to Program expenses. Most of the focus was on funding for the Program Assistant.
  - The Program Assistant position is funded from three sources: WSU, Foundation, and Intern Training registration fees.
  - There was a discussion about the salary for this position and that the Program should work with WSU to look at an increase. It was also noted that the position provides very good benefits.
- 8:00 Treasurer’s Report (Nancy).....5 minutes
- Refer to financial information Nancy sent for this meeting.
  - Nancy reviewed the financials through the end of January. The budget and expenses match well.
- 8:05 Audit Committee (TJ)..... 5 minutes
- Refer to audit information TJ sent out for this meeting.
  - The committee met on January 24<sup>th</sup> and reviewed the financials for the foundation. Planning for the annual meeting is underway. The audit went well, and no concerns were noted.
- 8:10 Board Recruitment and Succession Planning (Phil)..... 10 minutes
- A general discussion occurred as a follow up to last month.
  - Joan suggested the proposed model should include the president elect, the president, and the past president.
  - It was suggested that if the Bylaws are changed for this idea that we should include a revision to change the date of when Board members are elected and come onto the Board, to January 1st of each year. Phil will work on draft language, for review, to revise the Bylaws.
- 8:20 Establishing Member Dues (Joan/Phil)..... 10 minutes



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- A question about charging dues was made at last month's annual meeting. A general discussion of the pros and cons occurred.
- It was suggested that we look at what other counties do and any legal issues related to a charitable organization. We would also have to provide options for reduced fees and make sure that equity is considered.
- Daryl noted a concern that the services or value that the KC MG program can provide or has may not justify charging an annual dues membership. Some ideas were brought up that would potentially support charging dues.
- The idea seemed worth exploring but would need a leader and a small group to work on the next steps. More to come.

8:30 New business ..... 10 minutes

- Gary noted the cleaning out the CUH storage shed is underway. A general discussion occurred to clean out the shed as quickly as possible and to not delay our exit date with UW.

8:40 Adjourn

**Next meeting:** Thursday, March 14th, 2024, 7 pm to 8:30 pm, on Zoom

References:

See information sent prior to this Board meeting.

Attachments: