



# MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION OF KING COUNTY

MARCH 2025

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 13, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

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

One tap mobile - +1 253 215 8782, 881 7207 6722#

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

**Directors In Attendance:** Joan Baldwin, Daryl Schlessner, Phil Fordyce, Lin Provost, Trish Bloor, TJ Johnson, Gary Scheider, Suzi O'Byrne, Linda Kaufman, Dawn Rubstello, and Nancy Marshall.

**EX-officio:** Nora Larsen for Sarah Moore

**Members:** Linda Firey Oldroyd

**Guests:** None

### **Agenda**

- 7:02 Call to Order (Joan)..... 3 minutes
- Welcome – Joan recognized our guests noted above.
  - NOTE - January 2025 Minutes – These minutes were approved by electronic vote.
  - Approve February 2025 Minutes – Trish moved to approve; Daryl seconded; the minutes were approved.
  - Review of February action items: The review of the Zoom waiting room slide is ongoing. Daryl and Trish will work together to propose corrections. More to come.
- 7:05 President's Report (Joan)..... 5 minutes
- Joan met with the 2025 Intern training class on March 9<sup>th</sup>. So far 61 interns have chosen to become Master Gardener Foundation of King County (Foundation) members. Joan was impressed with the new incoming training class and noted that the Foundation will be looking for them to help manage the Cool Plants Hot Topics fund raising event.
  - Joan, Gary, and Sally Bagshaw met with Dr. Owen, director of the Center of Urban Horticulture (CUH). CUH is very interested in looking for opportunities to collaborate in the future as well as increasing the role the Arboretum Clinic has.
  - The search committee for Foundation Board member candidates has met and has done a very good job in attracting interest in running for election for vacant director positions. More to come. Committee members are Gary, Lin Provost, Linda K., Daryl, and Joan.
  - The planning committee for the new Green School program has met and several meetings have been scheduled to gather input and feedback.



## MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION OF KING COUNTY

- 7: 10    Program Update (Joan for Sarah) .....3 minutes
- The 2025 Intern training is complete. They only need to finish their garden visits and complete their course work by the end of March.
  - The Clinic Leadership team met in early March and is ready for the 2025 season.
  - The Speakers Bureau is looking for additional speakers. If you know of potential speakers, please send them the Speakers Bureau program lead.
  - The Program is having brainstorming meetings to develop ideas to support the new Green School and intern training programs.
  - The WSU Extension office is closely watching issues related to federal funding. No changes as of this date.
- 7:13    Treasurer's Report (Nancy) .....6 minutes
- Refer to financial information sent to the Foundation Board members prior to the meeting.
  - Current activity is within the approved budget limits.
  - Nancy is seeing early costs from the gardens as they begin to prepare for 2025.
  - The Davenport bequest has been moved to the Foundation's Vanguard investment portfolio.
  - The Program will be spending approximately \$40/month to support access to Microsoft's Authenticator program from all electronic devices.
- 7:19    Development Committee (Joan and Lynda) .....38 minutes
- Our West Seattle Garden tour grant application was not approved. Their Board is very supportive of the King County Master Gardener Program (Program) and encouraged the Foundation to resubmit a grant application next year.
  - The Shoreline grant application is complete and has been submitted.
  - Joan met with the grant application committee and is very excited about the help she has received.
  - The Spring Appeals Campaign was discussed and the Foundation Board decided to continue with a Spring appeal. Please send your ideas and suggestions to Joan.
  - The Lake Washington Waterfront Garden Tour was discussed, and the Foundation Board is supportive of moving forward with the planning process and is looking forward to planning updates in the future. Lynda Firey-Oldroyd presented several good ideas as well as research on existing garden tours. The Seattle Yacht Club is very supportive. Proceeds would be shared between the Foundation and the Seattle Yacht Club. The Foundation Board suggested the development of this fund-raising activity occur this year and into 2026 and then schedule the tour when the foundational plan and leadership is in place for the tour to be scheduled. Insurance for the tour was discussed as well as the need for any potential agreements with WSU. These two items need to be researched during the planning phase of the tour.



## MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION OF KING COUNTY

- 7:57 May Plant Sales (Joan and Gary) .....15 minutes
- The Tilth plant sale was discussed. Joan and Gary were able to find additional leadership to make the Foundation participation in this event possible. Joan stressed that this event is for Seattle and westside of Lake Washington and needs to be supportive of having a successful plant sale on the same weekend as the Bellevue Demo Garden event. She stressed we need both plant sales to be successful to generate Foundation income. Tilth potting parties will begin in April. Please send your ideas and suggestion to the new leadership team.
- 8:12 Foundation Board of Director Election Update. (Joan)..... 18 minutes
- Joan directed the Board meeting into an executive session to discuss this update. Nora and Lynda were excused.
  - The new candidate applications for vacant Director position were reviewed.
  - Seven applications were received and interviews with each applicant were carried out to ensure the applicant understood the expectations for a Foundation Board member.
  - There will be ten applicants for 8 vacant positions. There are three incumbents who have agreed to continue on if elected (Nancy, Phil, Lin Provost).
  - Joan will work with the Foundation Board to rebalance the number of vacant positions so that five member positions are up for reelection every year. This would ensure a continued rotation of directors to encourage Foundation success.
- 8:30 New business ..... 0 minutes
- No new business.
- 8:300 Adjourn
- Gary moved to adjourn; Linda K. seconded; the motion passed.

**Next meeting:** Thursday, April 11, 7 pm to 8:30 pm, on Zoom

### References:

See information sent to Foundation Board members prior to this Board meeting.

### Attachments:

None.