



MASTER GARDENER FOUNDATION OF KING COUNTY

DRAFT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 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 Schlessler, Phil Fordyce, Lin Provost, Trish Bloor, Gary Scheider, Suzi O’Byrne, Linda Kaufman, Dawn Rubstello, Nancy Marshall, Jeremy Miller, Marie Kurka-Brown, and Lynda Firey Oldroyd.

EX-officio: Sarah Moore

Members: none

Guests: none

Agenda

7:10 Call to Order (Joan)..... 5 minutes

- Welcome – Joan recognized any guests noted above.
- Approval of the September 2025 minutes – Linda K. moved to approve; Linda Firey Oldroyd seconded; the minutes were approved.
- Review of September action items:
 - Davenport Bequest – see Treasurer’s report below.
 - Committee action plans – under review by Governance Task Force
 - Audit report – emailed for review on November 11, 2025.
 - Branded items being looked at by Development Committee.

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

- Chelsea has taken a brief leave of absence and will be back in December 2025.
- Joan noted the State Foundation meeting will be held November 19, at 4:00pm, via Zoom. She encouraged all to attend if possible.
- Joan noted that the State Foundation is currently involved in a fund-raising campaign.
- The King Conservation District approved a grant to install 3 raised beds for the Bellevue Demonstration Garden.
- Kayah Swanson’s current contract is set to expire and will be reviewed by Joan.



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- Joan led a discussion about the differences between a Task Force and a Committee. Task Forces are used for short term or action items needing immediate attention while Committees are used for long term needs.
- 7: 30 Program Update (Sarah)10 minutes
- Green School training is underway and going well.
 - The Program Leadership team met and discussed additional opportunities for continuing education.
 - The King County Master Gardener annual recognition event well.
 - The Program is looking at ways Artificial Intelligence (AI) can be used in program development.
- 7:40 Treasurer’s Report (Nancy)40 minutes
- Refer to financial information and the audit report sent to the Foundation board members prior to the meeting.
 - Budgets versus actuals look good and are trending as expected. No surprises.
 - Investments showed positive gains.
 - Our tax return for 2024 was filed with the IRS and is posted on our website.
 - The Finance Committee will begin to review the Davenport Bequest and to determine how best to use the bequest. More details to follow.
 - The draft 2026 budget was reviewed and discussed. There was good input by the Board. The final 2026 Budget will be voted on at the December 2025 Board meeting. One suggestion was to consider taking money from the Foundations investment account for key capital projects for the demonstration gardens and/or the clinics.
- 8:20 Board Retreat Follow-up & Action Items (Joan/All) 10 minutes
- The Board retreat went well. Three committees were created to work on various tasks. These committees are Governance, Leadership, and Development.
 - Each committee provided a report describing the work they have been doing.
 - The work of the committees will be ongoing.
- 8:30 Development Committee (Joan) 10 minutes
- The fall fundraising effort is underway. The goal this year is to reach \$40,000. There was a good discussion of how the funds raised will support the upcoming budget.
 - Joan noted that we received a grant for Animal Acres.
 - A discussion occurred about using Master Gardener merchandise to help support fund raising efforts. Joan requested that a Task Force be created to work out the details and come back to the Board with a plan.
- 8:40 Director Elections (Joan) 14 minutes



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- Seven Director positions are up for election. Some current Board members are “termed” out and cannot run for re-election.
- A preliminary schedule for the 2026 election was discussed. More to come.
- New tools for voting are being looked at.
- A review of the current Bylaws may be needed to see if any revisions need to be made to support the schedule of Board elections as it relates to the length of term a Board member is obligated for.

8:54 New business 6 minutes

- Trish moved to start the December Board meeting at 6:30 pm instead of 7:00 pm. Suzi seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

9:00 Adjourn

- Jeremy moved to adjourn; Marie seconded; the motion passed.

Next meeting: Thursday, December 11th, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, on Zoom

References:

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

Attachments:

None.