

Brunswick County Master Gardener Volunteer Association
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President, Shirley Waggoner-Eisenman, at 9:05 a.m. In attendance were: David Barkley, Patty Burns, Dominique Loewenstein, Joe Loughlin, Fred Mina, Al Smith, Charlie Spencer, Ash Tyler, Shirley Waggoner-Eisenman, and Grace Wrigley.

Minutes of the July 17, 2008 board meeting were accepted as information.

Treasurer, Al Smith stated the current monthly budget shows a balance ending August 20, 2008 of \$13,205.47. He indicated we are in good shape with no unusual expenses; the conference loan has been repaid. He pointed out that we still have \$19,821.52 remaining for the year and anticipates that approximately \$9,000 - \$12,000 of the budget will go unspent which is consistent with last year. Charlie indicated that we still have expenses for seeds and plugs coming in. Al also indicated that BCMGVA is now registered with the state of NC as "Not for Profit" organization. The next step will be to file state sales tax.

Newsletter Editor, Joe Loughlin said he needs someone to do the newsletter for the month of October since he will be gone. It was suggested he check with Cathie Rod or Nancy Einbinder to see if either one of them can do it.

Greenhouse/Restitution, Ash Tyler stated that plugs, daylilies, etc. will be coming in within the next six months. The Restitution audit that was recently completed did not pass inspection; there will be another inspection shortly. The Restitution budget of \$10,500 still has not been approved by the county. Al Hight wants to get the Extension out of the Restitution Program. Blair is the coordinator until June, 2009. Charlie restated that the MG's have nothing to do with the Restitution Program except for the volunteers who get credit for \$15.00/hour and hot line time. This credit goes toward meeting our obligations (matching funds) to the program.

Vice President, Grace Wrigley stated she and David have the following speakers lined up for next year. The list includes: January, Bruce Williams (landscaping); February, Lisa Wimpfheimer (Tryon Palace); March, Jim LeTendre (tomato pests/solutions); April, Kent Kolbe (NC DOT Landscape Beautification/Wildflower); May, Anne Pendred (Photography); June, no speaker (graduation social – photography contest); July, Keith Baldwin (NC soils and plant growth); August, Joe Neal (weeds); September, Charlotte Glen, (open topic); October, speaker TBD; November, Larry Cahoon (NC climate changes); December, no speaker (Christmas banquet).

Membership, Dominique Loewenstein stated she is concerned that people are not showing up at the membership meetings or workdays. It was discussed that this is a

volunteer association and that you do as much as you can to get people to volunteer and then move forward. There was also a discussion about people completing timesheets. Charlie indicated timesheets should be updated regularly and kept in the MG office.

Hardscape, Fred Mina stated he is still working on replacing deck boards and is being hindered now with wasp nests and spiders.

Coordinator, Charlie Spencer gave the following list of activities for the next few months. The Farmer's Market on Garrison lawn in Southport is still being held every Wednesday morning until the end of November but the MG booth will only be there until the end of September. He stated we are selling books, getting more people bringing in plant samples and people asking about becoming a Master Gardener. A Firewise demonstration as well as a plant sale and clinic will be at St. James on Saturday, 9/13 from 10:00 – 2:00. Library seminars will be: 9/18 in Southport, 9/19 at Hickman's Crossroads both from 2-4 p.m. and 9/20 at Walmart in Southport from 10-12 Noon. Topic will be turf problems and diseases. 9/20 is also the date for the pesticide drop-off in Southport. 9/22 is a propagation workshop at Brunswick Electric from 12 Noon to 1:30 p.m. There will be continuing education seminars on herbs on 9/22 from 2-4 p.m. & 9/29 from 6-8 p.m. at BCC conducted by Charlie & Shirley. Tote bags for the conference will be stuffed on Monday, 9/29, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Friday, 9/26th, will be the Fall Coastal Gardening Program sponsored by the extension office. Saturday, 10/4, is the Sunset Beach event. The next plant sale will be 10/23, 24 & 25th The MG Christmas party will be 12/10. Life on the Farm will also be scheduled for late October or November.

Hort Agent, David Barkley stated the Brunswick County 4-H horticultural judging team won in July and will now represent NC at the national junior horticultural meeting in October. He is trying to raise money to get the team to the nationals and is requesting \$1000 from the BCMGVA. A motion was made by Dominique Loewenstein and seconded by Grace Wrigley to donate \$1000 to David for the 4-H team. It was recommended by the Board and will be presented to the general membership for approval.

President, Shirley Waggoner- Eisenman said we need to encourage more Brunswick County members to attend the conference. To date, there are 35 BCMGVA members attending out of approximately 200. Tours are beginning to fill up. Some of the workshops are also filling up. The registration late charge has been extended to after 9/15 versus 9/1. Conference shirts and hats will be sold at the conference booth. An updated list of donors, volunteer, etc. is needed in order to get the conference program printed. More volunteers are still needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Patty Burns, Recording Secretary