



Board Meeting - January 26, 2015

Call to Order: 7:02 pm

Attendance: M. Truza, R. Vrbensky, C. Castle, C. Lenchek, Margaret Dolan, Sally Bolle, Kathy Sobanski, Janie Grissom, Julie Kowalk, Denise Brown, Carole Carroll, Nancy Schmidt, Lucia Propst, Janie Grissom

Absent: B. Peters, Sandie Parrott

Quorum

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

PRESIDENT: M. Truza

- See New Business

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT: Salle Bolle

- First Meeting for Bower's Farm will be in March

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: Margaret Dolan: Some team leaders are requesting help with getting volunteers

SECRETARY: R. Vrbensky presented minutes from November 17, 2014 Minutes were approved as submitted; Brown/Bolle.

TREASURER: C. Castle presented first blush of financial reports as created in Quickbooks. Thorough discussion revealed that more detail was needed for each team/department and that each team chair/director needed to provide profound detail of sources of revenue and expenses to the Treasurer. Details of all purchases (how and when made and why) needed to be provided utilizing historical data to be as accurate as possible. It was agreed that Project Support/Development was our biggest department in terms of activity to money spent with Trips and Tours second. Project Support/Development however utilizes many subcommittees who utilize their own budgets and tracking. This all needs to be captured by the Treasurer for accurate and transparent reporting. Denise already tracks this level of detail and she is meeting with Crystal to determine best ways to incorporate this into Quickbooks.

MOTION: Kathy Sobanski moved that we accept merchant cards for payment of membership dues but to also charge each user the applicable discount fees charged by the merchant card company. Sally Bolle seconded. Approved

MOTION: Sally Bolle moved to increase the Web/IT budget from \$500 to \$2000 for 2015. Margaret Dolan seconded. Approved

MG COORDINATOR: C. Lenchek reported .

- Requested funds for scholarships from her MSUE Fund to send 3 individuals to our annual conference
- Presented at "thank you" from a scholarship recipient
- Required hours are no longer designated. All hours are equal
- New class has 75 students

TEAM REPORTS



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Project Support: D. Brown:

- Merchandise: Sold product at the Macomb Master Gardener class and have been invited to the Wayne Master Gardener class. Her team is attending a number of other events: 1/31 and 3/28 with more being scheduled.
- Silent Auction: The layout was better, they got an earlier start in setting up despite some issues in moving tables. Income: \$3355; Expense (fabric for table covers): \$552.15=\$2,772.85 profit
- Potluck: Team is reworking the Give and Get idea
- Lessons Learned: Have volunteers sign up for tear down.
- Membership Pins: given to Julie Kowalk
- Kroger Rewards: Presented this program as a way to fundraise for the Society. She proposed we enroll in the program so members can assign rewards to us thru their regular shopping. Approved
- Conference: D. Brown reported
 - 116 tickets have been sold of 380 maximum
 - Seeking a driver to transport our speakers to required destinations (hotel, airport, conference center, etc)
 - Advertising is completed
 - Hotels and musicians are confirmed
 - Flight arrangements are being made
 - 13 vendors have paid
 - Gift bags are in
 - Next few meetings will finalize vendors, layout, food and IT

Corresponding Secretary: Nancy S. reported: 4 cards have been sent this period. She is picking up books donated by the Rochester Hills Library. 353 cookbooks are left

Door Prize Coordinator: J. Grissom presented

- No issues

Hospitality: Kathy S.

- Challenged by carrying such heavy product each month. She would like someone strong to meet her when she arrives at the church to help her unload and again at the end of the night.
- She would like a designated back up if she cannot attend a meeting
- Holiday potluck was successful

- Greeter: Carole C presented.
- January: 8 guests, 67 members attended

Membership: Julie K. presented. Distributed welcome letters package. Corrections were given to Julie. She will update sheets and get packages prepared to send out.

Communications: D. & P. Wanat absent:



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Programs: Betty Peters: absent but submitted her report in absentia. She stated it is increasingly difficult to book quality speakers for less than \$100 plus travel expenses. Program budget was increased accordingly. DeeAnn Bauer will be sending announcements of our programs to the *Oakland Gardener Magazine*.

Trips and Tours: Sandie P. presented.

- Trip is books but she is adding a few more stops

VMS Ambassador: Lucia Propst reported she is busy answering email questions regarding VMS issues.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Reviewed scores for last meetings scoresheet: turn down heat and have presenters be better at summarizing.
- Presented Cancellation Policy for refinement
- Liability Insurance: Margy obtained some estimates but they were quite expensive, nearly \$1000 per year. Julie suggested Directors and Officers insurance.

NEW BUSINESS: Margy T. presented: She proposed MGSOC, Inc fund partial scholarships for 5 designated garden groups to attend our April conference. Another garden club is doing this and she suggested we offer the same amount to the same groups so that more than one person from the group can attend. The amount is \$50 of our \$70 total cost for a total scholarship cost of \$250. By not paying the entire amount encourages the individual to actually attend by having a small monetary investment. The garden groups are:

1. Earthworks
2. Michigan Urban farm Initiative
3. Focus HOPE/Lafayette Greens
4. Rising Pheasant Farms

MOTION: Ruth moved to sponsor 5 garden members from above at \$50 each to attend our April conference. They will have to pay the remaining \$20. Crystal seconded. Approved.

Motion: Adjourn at 9:50 pm

Required hours: 3.0 hours

Next Meeting: March 16, 2015 Bldg, 26, 1st floor conference room.

☼ All reports are available from the Secretary. Requests must be made in writing. These minutes will be posted on our website, but without financial information. They may also be edited for content.
Website: www.mgsoc.org.