

Master Gardener Foundation of San Juan County Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting  
1/10/17 Minutes

Board Members Present: Kate Yturri,, Julia Turney, Diana Brooks, Sandy May, Dot Vandever, , Nancy Forker, Pat Kuentzel, Barbara Orcutt.

Guests Present: Alice Dean, Catlin Blethen, Jane Wentworth

Minutes from October 11, 2016 meeting approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report and Summary of Financial Planning Meeting:

2016 budget report submitted and attached.

Total current assets in the general fund are \$35,757.25.

Individual island funds as of January, 2017 are: Lopez, \$1428.88; Orcas \$529.19; and SJI \$22,471.91.

The general fund has \$10,109.2 at end of 2016.

The 2017 budget requests have been submitted and collated. See attachment.

Discussion from the financial planning meeting resulted in the committee recommending to the board that going forward the budget should be organized by projects, rather than by island.

This reorganization would support the emphasis on county-wide planning and program activities. It is important to emphasize that no island would lose money from individual island funds currently reserved to that island. The island funds would retain totals as of December 31, 2016 and would be able to spend them down according to current financial policies. Going forward the committee recommends the budget be reorganized to a project centric rather than an island specific budget. Thus Farmers' Markets would become a line item in the general fund under which the island expenses would be subcategories. The committee believes this would encourage county wide projects in which we all participate and which we all support thus strengthening the Master Gardener program throughout the county. It would allow for a consistency across activities which the program sponsors but which occur on specific islands. It would allow for leadership by county-wide projects and planning rather than by island. It was suggested a planning calendar matrix be developed which reflects the transportation windows within the ferry schedule.

Motion:: It was moved and seconded to transition to a project based budget from an island based budget. Passed unanimously.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that current island funds, as of December 31, 2016 be retained by the individual islands to be spent at their discretion. Passed unanimously.

2017 budget approved with amendments. Figures attached.

Discussion followed about how county wide projects will be adopted and funded going forward. 2017 budget will be amended to include a line item of \$2500 committed to projects which may be proposed for 2017. Julia volunteered to revise the draft grant application process to a project based application process.

Motion: It was moved and seconded that \$2500 will be set aside for projects which may be proposed during 2017. Passed unanimously.

Native Plant Sale: Thanks to Jane Wentworth and Sandy May, the 2017 order form and information is on the web site. Hard copies are also available. Plants for the sale have been ordered. There will be a native plant workshop this year, but may not be as closely coordinated with the Conservation District as in previous years because of their staff limits. Plant sale is Saturday, March 11, 2017. Bundling will be Friday, March 10, 2017. Both will take place at the Fair grounds. We will sell both container and bare root plants. Publicity is beginning including posters and press articles. Jane will distribute posters, order forms, and information to

representatives on all islands. June Arnold will once again pick up all the plants. Please collect grocery paper sacks. The Native Plant workshop is scheduled for February 18th. The Conservation District no longer has an Orcas representative to work on an expo for Orcas.

Intern Guidelines: A total of 50 hours will be required of all interns during the first year following completion of training. Those 50 hours must include the following: 12 hours at Farmers; Market; 10 hours in plant problem diagnostics; 10 hours in educational and community outreach such as community forums; 10 hours in the Demonstration Garden. Interns will be placed into cohorts; and 8 hours to be completed as the intern chooses. Interns will be formed into cohorts which will be mentored by two experienced Master Gardeners. At least some of the required hours in each category will be completed as a cohort, time and activity to be arranged by the cohort members and their mentors. There will be opportunity for mentors to take the whole cohort or members of the cohort to another island which has qualifying activities. Hours can also be credited for Master Gardener volunteer work done while on the ferry going to and from activities. Plan is to meet mentees during training and then pre-schedule the cohort activities before training is finished. Kate Yturri, Dot Vandever, and Caity Blethen will create a plan for the mentor/mentee plan and send it out to the board.

Volunteer Training: The classes begin Tuesday, January 31, 2017 and run 9 weeks. All current master gardeners are invited to attend any or all of the classes.

MOA with WSU has been approved and seems to be moving along and will be signed and completed in the next few months.

Awards: Intern awards acknowledging completion of hours and longevity award honoring volunteers who have been active for a long time will be investigated by Julia. Pins will be explored for the interns.

WSU/MGFSJC MOA: Nichole Martini has approved the MOA. Brook will fill out the agreement form to have WSU approve the final document.

Diagnostic Clinic: Lopez is interested in having or hosting a diagnostic clinic on Lopez. Meeting adjourned. Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 11, 2017 which will also be the annual membership lunch. Suggested topics for the annual meeting were soils and climate change.