

**Master Gardener Foundation of San Juan County
Board of Directors Meeting
January 11, 2022**

Present: Board members Kate Yturri, Nancy Forker, Sandra May, Barbara Orcutt, Dianne Macondray, Lenore Bayuk, Kim Howard, Debbie Young, Sandy Ryan, Sylvia McKenney, Vicki Leimback; Program Coordinator Caitie Blethen; and members Alice Deane, Tony Suruda, Jenny Harris

This meeting was held via Zoom conference due to the physical distancing restrictions in place at present ordered by Washington State Governor Jay Inslee in response to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Minutes: Review and approval of minutes of the October 12, 2021 Board meeting. Motion to approve the minutes, seconded, passed.

Finance - Nancy

**Budget
Finance committee report**

We have \$56,800 in the bank. We made a bit of money this year.

P&L Statement shows what was spent and made this calendar year. Two fundraisers, the garden workshop made \$5,400 in registration money and the Spring Plant Sale grossed \$6,300. There were a few expenses for the apple orchard and some Native Plant Sale expenses. The Native Plant Sale expenses are for the 2022 sale.

There is a funding request by Jenny Harris for the labeling of the garden at the Resource Center. These are non plastic, sustainable markers for the garden. If we order 60 or more it may cost \$14.75 per sign including a stake. There are well over 100 taxa in the garden, the plan is to label 75. There will be two signs to explain the garden with a QR code. A Mt Vernon sign maker was used for the apple orchard (metal). Barbara will send info to Jenny and the group. Budget is \$1,500 plus 10% to cover tax and shipping costs (total \$1,650). Motion to approve budget for signs up to \$1,650.00 Seconded. None opposed. This will go under new project funding in the 2022 budget. Jenny is working on a website for the garden and may make an album with a link to share. Jenny's Instagram has photos also.

Budget for 2022 – doesn't include money for farmer's market, joint forum, and other events not being held. Need to add \$300 for insurance. There is no budget for continuing ed. Will add in \$1,650 for the signage for the Resource Center garden just approved above. Motion to approve the budget (Barbara), second to approve the budget (Lenore). All approve none opposed.

If we come up with an educational opportunity, can we add to the budget. We can't give out scholarships to individual people, lots of rules around that (need

based etc.). Maybe a discussion for the finance committee. We can also explore WSU policies. Barbara will take the lead to explore and report back to the group.

Project Updates

Native Plant Sale – Jane

Refer to Jane's write up for the status of the Native Plant Sale. Site opens January 28th to March 11th, bundling (at Red Mill Farm) is 18th and pick up is the 19th on the islands. Vicki is going to do an add for facebook. Nativesale.org will be the url used for marketing. This will point (link) to the sale at mgfsjcshop.org. Dianne Macondray has a press release created. Sandra May is doing an announcement on the webpage for the sale.

SJI Demo garden update - Alice or Judy C.

We harvested kale last week and donated to the food bank. Linda Thompson has volunteered to overhaul the garden shed area. Alice will try to update the irrigation. Judy, Alice and Susan Mahoney are coming up with a planting plan. The amount harvested and donated to the food bank was 1089 pounds in 2021, and the goal is 1200 pounds for 2022.

Orcas native plant garden/school garden update - Tony, Lene

Gardenkeeper Colleen is leaving the position sometime in the next year if the woman who is planning to take over her job finds housing on Orcas. Tony reported that the Pacific coast irises were blooming before the cold weather and the garden looked healthy except for a few weeds.

Lopez heritage apple orchard – Barbara, Debbie

Trying to get the county to do lawnmowing around the trees. They solved the benches so they are draining water. The trees should have weathered the snow pretty well, they have been pruned. Barbara has a location (private land) to do a marble island butterfly project. Could put together an educational piece on how to implement on your private property. 4-5 interns from Lopez are interviewing and may get involved.

Spring Plant Sale –

For multiple reasons, we will not have a Spring Plant Sale this year. Need to come up with a plan to communicate to the community. We could put articles in the newspaper. Call it a hiatus for the sale. Alice will put together a draft for review and then will send it out the newspapers. We can put on our website. Julia Turney and Tony would like to hold a perennial plant sale. Haven't picked a date yet. This will be just for Orcas, or also Lopez at the community center (no charge). Will hold end of April / Early May after the interns graduate. The demonstration garden is a safe space on SJI, however this may be too much trouble given the ferry situation. No pre-orders will be taken on the website, only in person sales.

Program - Caitie

WSU Covid updates

State Master Gardener meeting is next week to clarify covid requirements. Rules about logos are coming out. Vicki is working with the State WSU on the logo for facebook.

Diagnostic Clinic – Kim, Tony

Hoping to open up in May. Would like to get the new interns involved. Need a location to hold clinic on Orcas (Landing being renovated). May have restrictions due to Covid. Could use the meeting room at the library. Need to know about the extension meeting room also for San Juan Island.

Newsletter – Lene and Diana are doing a great job on the newsletter.

Training – 28 trainees, Caitie is enthusiastic about all of them (6 Orcas, 5 Lopez, the rest SJI) Training starts January 25th. They used a platform called Canvas and it is cumbersome. Looks like a great program, thanks to all who are helping. All veteran MGs will be invited to sit in the training. These classes can be counted for CE. Vicki has some tips to make entering hours easier.

Old Business – none

New Business – Joint Forum (5 county) next Tuesday 1pm January 18. Useful to get good ideas. One of the training sessions on soil is with the Skagit and Snohomish MGs.

Seed Saving workshop – Grange is holding, Luisa Brower is holding a 2 part class on seed saving. Alice plans to share a link with the information that we will send out.

Motion to adjourn and seconded.

Respectfully submitted January 11, 2022.

Sandra May, Secretary
SJCMGF