

**Master Gardener Foundation of San Juan County  
Board of Directors Meeting  
January 12, 2021**

**Present:** Board members Kate Yturri, Nancy Forker, Sandra May, Barbara Orcutt, Dianne Macondray, Julia Turney, Lenore Bayuk, Diana Brooks, Kim Howard, Sylvia McKenney; Program Coordinator Caitie Blethen; and members Alice Dean, Judy Winer, Elaine Frazel, Sandy Ryan, Lene Symes, Mo Sloane, and Anthony Suruda

Board Members not present: Vicki Leimback, Pat Kuentzel

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 13, 2020 Board meeting. Motion to approve the minutes (Barbara), seconded (Julia), passed.

**Finance – Nancy**

Balance Report – Bank balance is \$52,000 (51,967) as of Jan 4<sup>th</sup>

Profit and Loss Budget vs Actual – calendar Year Jan – Dec 2020 – Total income is \$16,000. The income is less than anticipated because of Covid. Expected income was \$21,520. Total Expenses was \$17,543 vs \$29,333 expected.

Spreadsheet – Budget by Project – This records the numbers that become the 2021 budget. This shows 2021 proposed vs 2020 actual.

Jenny Harris doesn't have a project yet for the Resource Center landscaping since it was slowed down due to Covid. We need to add the Moran State Park budget - \$50 for grafting tools and supplies. We should be able to do the work with 5 people. Billy at the Ranger Park can keep them at the park. We will add to new projects funding.

The Annual Meeting won't happen in 2021. Last year we invited everyone to the board meeting to ask questions. We won't need budget for this. The monthly meetings are covering some annual meeting topics.

Grow your own - Could provide \$50 to support 'Grow your Own' gardening activities.

County Fair – planning for fair to be virtual again

Veggies webinar – all sponsored by garden clubs – have \$300 for Jane's plant morphology webinar

Farmers Market – no funds have been allocated due to Covid.

Native Plant Sale – may do something in the spring. Numbers are there as a placeholder. Spending for 2022 may happen in 2021.

Slush Fund – \$120 per island in case things open up once immunizations roll out.

There was a motion to adopt as a budget – Barbara moves, Sylvia seconds. No one disapproves. We will revisit the budget in 3 months at the next quarterly meeting.

Covid what are the current WSU rules - According to Caitie, we are still holding steady on the demo garden. We are ok with moving forward with the SPS. No more than five people together in demo gardens and prepping for sales. At the Farmer's Market we will need to adopt the state guidelines for our county. Guidelines are going by the governor's phases.

#### **Garden Workshop Series wrap-up report - Judy W, Kate**

Workshop series went well and we made money. All workshops worked fine with record attendees. Other locations are starting to replicate our workshop model.

#### **2021 Spring Plant Sale (SPS) - Mo**

Alice, Lenore and Mo are considering that they might run into problems on fulfillment day (the day that we fill orders before the sale). Only 5 people are allowed outdoors. we might not have enough volunteers willing to participate. The SPS team would like to get a headcount on how many would like to participate. We might have to scale back to a subset of plants or number of orders. We think we can manage germination and transportation ok.

Is it possible to do fulfillment over 2-3 days to put orders together. According to Mo this may be a challenge with watering and maintaining the plants at the Mullis Center over an extended timeframe.

Seeds have been purchased. The rest of supplies will have to wait a couple weeks to see how to proceed. If we don't use the seeds, can hold them for next year.

Need to make a decision on approach for the SPS by end of Feb.

If perennials are too much would this help in volunteer time? According to Mo, it adds to the fulfillment day impact. We can decide on this later also.

#### **2021 Perennial plant sale – Tony**

We can do something in beginning of March (200 plants). We will divide if we determine if there will be a sale.

#### **Future plans for Grow your own Food - Caitie**

Need to check in with Jennifer at the Resource Center. Hoping to be able to support gardeners in some way this year.

#### **SJI Demo garden update - Alice**

There are three volunteers working at the demo garden. Jenny Harris is doing landscaping at the Resource Center. We would like to integrate the path to the parking lot and improve the area. This may be a future proposal with Jenny Harris. The budget under Miscellaneous for the demo garden would cover expenses.

Capital improvements – we need improvements on the irrigation system. We will address this when we put the water back on. The demo garden produced about 1900 pounds of produce which was donated to the Food Bank last year.

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

We are cleaning and getting rid of some strawberries – including native strawberry if anyone needs some.

**Lopez heritage apple orchard – Pat, Barbara**

The crabapple was replaced. The volunteers will reposition and tilt benches so they don't rot as quickly. This is a public park rather than a demo garden.

**Program – Caitie****Community Veggie Presentations**

Veggie webinars – save the dates & register. Huge kudos to Kate and Judy to get this up and running. Carol (174) and Linda (140) registrations are going well. Communications went out through mailchimp, mail and social media. Also kudos to garden clubs for sponsoring and Caitie for getting the word out. Sent to Whatcom so may have some from folks from the mainland.

**Program committee report**

Survey went out in Oct to gauge where folk are in program work. Thanks to Diana Brooks for getting Holiday party rolling and Mo to put together holiday treat guide.

**Diagnostic clinic status**

Kim – It has been pretty quiet, a few things have been addressed online. Response online is pretty slow. Would like to find another co-coordinator for SJI and other islands.

Tony – no reservations at the landing are allowed yet. We have the same set up on Orcas as Friday Harbor now.

Caitie – Clark county is holding a conference on Jan 25<sup>th</sup> for the diagnostic clinic. They will talk about their system. Tony would like to see how to get specimens.

**Newsletter**

Caitie – Caitie is writing down ideas for January. Putting a team together. Anyone can send nice photos for the newsletter. Also open to feedback and writing articles.

**Old Business****Upcoming Master Gardener Botany CE – Jane**

Botany CE on Feb 9<sup>th</sup>, Jane, Judy, Caitie are sending out registration and information. This sounds really good.

**SJI Community garden report - Jenny**

Discussed above. Dutch landscaper is the inspiration. Once it is more developed it will be very nice.

**New Business**

We are all dealing with Covid and politics.

**Operations Manual – Kate**

'How to' for how to do our projects – workshops, SPS, NPS. Would like this information organized in one place.

**Joint Program/Foundation Publicity Committee - Kate and Caitie**

Mo has done an amazing job. We need a committee to help the program and foundation. Would like everyone to think about.

If anyone interested in going to the joint program meeting let Kate know. It will be interesting to see what others are doing during covid. It is a zoom meeting this year.

Julia – Rotary Club is interested in pollinator garden near the map area on Orcas Island. This is unfenced so there will be deer. It would be fun to be a consultant. There is large leaf lupine that could be donated. May want to save perennials for this effort.

There are 10 folks in SJC planning to take the horticulture course. Thanks to Kate to help roll it out. If these 10 folks want to become Master Gardener we will figure out how to make it happen.

Next Foundation meeting is April 13<sup>th</sup> 2021 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tues in April).

Respectfully submitted February 9, 2020.

Sandra May, Secretary  
SJCMGF