

MINUTES OF THE MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION OF BC COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, May 12, 2007

9:30am, Cedar Room, VanDusen Gardens

PRESENT: Barry Roberts, Ron Fawcett, Penny Koch, Leslie Ingram, Dana Richardson, Susan Lazar, Janet Sawatsky, Linda Sears, Lynne Christmas, Diane Hartley

Regrets:

Note: The letters MSC used below stand for Moved, Seconded, Carried

The meeting opened with congratulations to Lynne for her election to the board of governors for VanDusen Botanical Garden. Barry has agreed to be the MGABC representative on the VBGA Board.

1. Minutes of Council Meeting of April 8, 2008: m/s/c Diane/Linda Discussion of how minutes will reflect the separation of provincial business and local chapter business. The decision was made that until the Vancouver Chapter is formally set up we will continue to have 1 set of minutes and provincial issues will be discussed at the beginning of the meeting and local issues in the latter part.

2. Treasurer's Report: (attached) Ron presented a reconciled Financial Statement as at April 30/08 to council which was a comparative statement to the approved budget. Council accepted the Financial Statement as presented.

3. Correspondence/Committee Reports: -Discussion of length, time and dates of meetings. Are dates set in stone, can chair elect step in when chair is unavailable, how will we deal with separation of provincial and local issues. For the interim local issues will be discussed at the end of meetings so that out of town members of council can leave to travel home. Diane has booked the rooms for 2009 meetings and will email the calendar to council members.

-Linda asked about the Annual Report schedule and suggested that it be prepared for presentation to the AGM in November. Council concurred and Barry will prepare the report accordingly.

4. Old Business: - LoA Victoria. Lynne expressed her concern that VIMGA is unwilling to provide a copy of their agreement with Malaspina University while at the same time insisting that new chapters should provide a copy of their education agreements as part of the affiliation process. VIMGA is insistent that a clear set of written standards is necessary before any affiliation agreements can be made. Janet expressed concern about the apparent lack of screening and orientation with the Prince George program. The registration guidelines for the program are listed as "first come, first served". Lynne assured her that there is screening and orientation through DDBS after registration for those students that are planning to complete the MG program and serve as volunteers in the community

-**P&P** – Leslie is still missing many documents required to complete the manual and will send out emails to individual members to remind them to submit the documents. Linda Sears volunteered to help Leslie by editing the document once Leslie has it compiled.

Election/nominations – Discussion of how many new members we will need to elect. We will need a secretary and 1 member-at-large from the Island and 6 new members to complete the council of 16 members from the province. If there is no candidate from a particular geographical area the position will be left vacant. Elections will be held in November and the Nominations Cttee is working with the Implementation Cttee to compile a list of nominees. Linda and Janet will provide a synopsis of how their chapters are set up to give us some ideas of how the Vancouver Chapter should be structured.

Garden Party – The June 10 meeting will be a short business meeting starting at 7:00 after which we will have a dessert and beverage and guided tours of the Garden. Leslie will ensure the notice is on the website.

Workshop- The May 30 workshop is oversubscribed much to Susan's delight. A follow-up workshop will be held in September in Langley with students from the May workshop having first option to attend.

Field Trip- Susan Lazar and Judy Zipursky are working on a trip to visit a fragrance garden and a project which teaches how to grow veggies at home. These venues are in Ferndale WA. Susan will bring details to council ASAP.

5. New Business: Newsletter/Advertising – Ann-Marie is not interested in placing ads in the newsletter. Barry Roberts withdrew his suggestion. The Gardenwise advertisements that were quite costly were a disappointment. Linda suggested that we make use of the free calendars that are available in GW and many other publications to advertise our events.

- **Education Cttee:** Jack wants the Cttee to develop a framework for education standards before we invite representatives from around the province to sit in. Jack is currently unable to work with the committee because he has had eye surgery. Jack suggested that Ann Kent could take on the job while he is out of commission. m/s/c Barry/Ron That Pam Harrison be approached to head up a project to create an education standards document which will include volunteerism, a screening and selection process and models of delivery for the Provincial MGABC. Pam will be requested to recruit a Cttee from across the province and present a summary report to the September council meeting.

6. Any Other Business: Ministry of Agriculture has created new handbooks on BC's most wanted pests, these handbooks are most relevant to the Interior of BC, but they are free and some of our members will want them. Lynne will order 50 copies.

Meeting adjourned at: 12:15pm

Handouts attached:

Treasurer's report

Pam Harrison's reply to Jack's survey

Letter from VIMGA

Malaspina MG program guide

Respectfully submitted by Diane Hartley