

MINUTES OF THE MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION OF BC
Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday October 14, 2009

11:00 a.m. Cedar Room, VanDusen Gardens

PRESENT: Lynne Christmas, Ron Fawcett, Leslie Ingram, Susan Lazar, Heather Nielsen, Barry Roberts,
REGRETS: Linda Derkach

Note: the letters m/s/c used below stand for Moved, Seconded, and Carried

1. a) Call to Order – Barry called the meeting to order at 11:51a.m.
b) Adoption of Amended Agenda with respective changes:
Consent Agenda was not used
Approval of 09/09 MGABC Minutes to be tabled November 27, 2009
2. **Treasurer's Report- Ron Fawcett** * see notes attached to financial statements
Ron explained there will be term deposits expiring shortly. These will be restructured and reinvested into redeemable term deposits. Lynne asked whether having this money tied up would affect the Spring Seminar. Ron explained there is revenue which comes in from advanced tickets sales. Barry noted the next big expense will be the Winspear AGM.

Income Statement as @ September 30, 2009

Balance Sheet as @ September 30, 2009

MGABC Cheques Issued September 2009

m/s/c Ron / Lynne

m/s/c Susan/ Leslie

Previously approved 2010 Budget has been amended to reflect the November 26/09 AGM Guest Fees
Leslie wondered about communicating the MGABC Budget to the Vancouver Master Gardeners, as members have a right to view these. Ron said the budget would be posted at the AGM, Susan noted the goal this year has been for separation between MGABC and Vancouver Master Gardeners. Members are always entitled to ask. It was agreed 2010 should see a reporting process to Vancouver. Ron agreed to mention the Provincial Budget at the Vancouver AGM.

3. **MGABC Council Slate for 2010** Barry and Lynne
Council Slate is as previously published except for Sheila Jones who has withdrawn her name. Currently there are two vacancies to be filled; these members could come from any Chapter.

Director - (nominee: Rebecca Black)

Director – (nominee: Joy Posyniak)

Director – (nominee: Nini Taylor)

Director – (nominee: Sheila Jones) < Name Withdrawn

The positions of President (Barry Roberts), Treasurer (Ron Fawcett), Secretary (Heather Nielsen), Vice-President Education (Linda Derkach), Vice-President Meetings & Special Events (Susan Lazar), Director (Sheila Malbeuf, representing Prince George), Director (Pam Harrison, representing Vancouver Island), Director (Linda Sears, representing Summerland), Directors (Jan Hemming & Hope Hilliard, representing Victoria), Director (Wendy McIntyre, representing Coquitlam, Port Moody & Maple Ridge) remain unchanged as they all have at least one more year to serve.

4. **Chapter Problem (Vancouver)** Barry and Lynne
After lengthy discussion with all interested parties, there will be no change in the current policy of VanDusen Guides NOT being able to claim for Master Gardener outreach hours.

5. **Green Pages** Heather/ Leslie
The Green Pages have been removed from the MGABC Website as per the September MGABC Council vote.

6. **Annual Report** Lynne
This report was circulated and will be posted on the website excluding the financial information at the end.

7. **Travel Costs** Ron Fawcett

a) MGABC Council can expect to see a future amendment to the Council Travel policy whereby CRA is now recognizing volunteerism and certain expenses incurred. Ron suggested a policy to provide a charitable tax receipt for such things as mileage accrued in travel for council business. This tax receipt would be available to those council members who are not reimbursed for travel expenses. Leslie will draft up a policy which will apply to Council members only.

b) AGM Travel Policy: (see Linda S. and Ron's e-mail dated September 28th)

This MGABC Executive recommends to Council that we reimburse full travel expenses and part accommodation (to a maximum of \$100) expenses and that this be limited to the November 26/09 AGM

m/s/c Lynne/ Susan

8. Spring Seminar 2010- Provincial Event -Lynne

a) Lynne has approached other Chapters to ask for recommendations for speakers

b) Lynne has concern re handing out volumes of printed material including Fact Sheets to members and has suggested a canvas bag with MGABC logo. Discussion followed of raising cost of seminar to cover cost of bag. Lynne will follow up with suppliers.

c) Ticket price: discussion of cost of seminar vs. implied value to the public i.e. \$35 for a full day does not speak to quality. This year we will be hosting an international speaker.

It was agreed to set the ticket price at \$45 for pre-registrants and \$60 at door.

9. Renewal of Affiliation Agreements with all Chapters - All

Bylaws state that affiliation agreements are to be reviewed on an annual basis. This is an opportunity to prepare these for the November AGM.

Lynne has copies of the previous agreements and will send out Drafts in preparation for signing in November.

10. Planning for Year-End Handover - All

a) November 27th AGM- A Business meeting agenda item will be to decide VP / Director positions for 3 new members. Lynne (as Past President) and Leslie (as VP of Planning and Governance) will be leaving. The Nomination Committee is working on filling these gaps as well as position of President-Elect.

b) A discussion about the next Full MGABC Council meeting took place: the Executive Council recommends that the first Full Council meeting takes place in January as usual, though with the possibility of a different date (so that Victoria can attend). Otherwise there is nothing between the November AGM and February/March, which the Executive Council believes is too long of a gap for new Council members to gain experience. It is unknown whether the 3 new Council members will attend the November AGM.

11. Planning 2010 Objectives discussion in November – All

Top priority for 2009 has been reviewing how we educate the public. Chapter reports on how well this has been accomplished are needed. It will be necessary to review 2009 Objectives and tick off those which have been completed.

12. Newsletter – All

Barry noted he has sent an e mail communication to the Newsletter Committee with recommendations from Provincial Council. Discussion followed on the Newsletter Committee section in MGABC Provincial Guidelines. There was also discussion of a possible newsletter team.

13 Adjournment: There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Heather Nielsen, Secretary

Next Provincial FULL Council Meeting will be held Friday November 27/09 at Winspear Centre , Sidney

Handouts attached

Agenda

Financial Statements (including note dated Oct 11/09

Income Statement as @ September 30, 2009

Balance Sheet as @ September 30, 2009

MGABC (previously approved) 2010 amended Budget

Cheques issued September 2009