

MINUTES OF THE MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION OF BC GENERAL MEETING

**Tuesday, May 13, 2008, 9:30am
Floral Hall VanDusen Botanical Gardens**

(Note: **MSC** stands for moved, seconded, carried)

Lynn Christmas, MGABC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30am

1. Welcome and Announcements: Lynne thanked everyone who brought plants for sale as well as those who brought the extra plants from the VanDusen Plant Sale. Lynne thanked Nigel Bunning for his generous donation of floral arrangements given as door prizes at the Spring Seminar.

Lynne announced:

- 1) there is a new director of VanDusen, Harry Jogerdon, who will start work June 9.
- 2) there will be a capital campaign open house May 21 where plans for the garden will be displayed and the architects will be available to answer questions. The Garden is looking for feedback from the membership. Brochures are available at the back of the room
- 3) David Tarrant is leading a garden tour of Australia in November/09; Renshaw Travel is organizing the tour.
- 4) minutes & financial statements are on the wall for perusal.
- 5) name tags are on the tea table for those who ordered them.

2. Speaker: Audrey Ostrom introduced our speaker, Ian Lai.

Mr. Lai is the energy behind the Terra Nova Project in Richmond. His training is as a chef, but he thinks of himself as an agriculturalist/educator because that is what he has been doing for the past several years at Terra Nova. The goal of the project is to inspire a value for fresh food, healthy eating habit and sustainable agriculture practices. There are 500 school children involved in the program from schools in Richmond and Ian is hopeful that the program will eventually spread across BC and into the rest of Canada. His excitement about the program and the children he works with was readily apparent in his enthusiastic presentation. He is hoping that more MGs will become involved in the program and encouraged everyone to look at the website

www.myterranova.ca

Therese D'Monte thanked Ian for his very interesting and inspiring presentation saying that we are glad that he made a career change.

Coffee Break

3. MG Business Meeting:

a) **Minutes of November 2006 General Meeting:** m/s/c Diane Hartley/Jim Taylor

b) Treasurer's Report: Ron presented his reconciled financial statement to the meeting.

c) Report from Council:

i) the nominations and implementation committees are working toward our Nov. elections which will be held under the new bylaws and require some changes in procedures.

d) Old Business: none

e) New Business:

i) Susan Lazar reported to the meeting:

1) the June 10 General Meeting will start at 7:00pm and after a short business meeting guided tours of VanDusen will be lead by VanDusen Guides followed by strawberries and cream.

2) the May 30 workshop with Kwantlen College is fully booked and there will be a follow-up workshop at the Kwantlen Langley Campus on Sept. 20. Call Susan if you want to attend.

3) several members at the meeting expressed an interest in a trip to Ian Lai's Terra Nova project after hearing him speak this morning. Susan will look into the possibility of arranging it.

ii) Judy Zipursky announced plans are underway for a field trip to Ferndale Washington to view a fragrance garden and a demonstration garden looked after by Washington state MGs. Dates are yet to be determined, but likely some time in July. We can brown bag it and picnic in the garden or have lunch at a nearby Mexican restaurant that makes "killer margaritas" according to Judy.

4. Members Time – Q&A/Comments/Sharing:

5. Motion to adjourn & Door prizes: 11:30am

Respectfully submitted by: Diane Hartley, Secretary