**MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION OF GENESEE COUNTY MICHIGAN**

**Board of Directors Meeting – January 16, 2020**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Joanne Gensel at 3:30 pm.

**Attendees:** Joanne Gensel, President; Sabrina VanDyke 1st Vice President; 2nd Vice President, Loretta Ellwood; Margaret Sowle, Secretary; Michelle Wareham, Treasurer; Kay McCullough, Outreach Director; Mel Kennedy, Director of Communications; and Barslund Judd, Co-Ordinator.

**Secretary:**  Motion and 2nd by Kay and Loretta to accept the December 12, 2019 Pre-2020 Board meeting minutes. Passed.

**President’s Comments:**

The MMGA’s renewal is coming up. The $5.00 dues can be paid through PayPal or by sending a check to MMGA.

The Goals for 2020 will be **SMART**: **S** pecific

**M** easurable

**A** cheivable

**R** elvevant

**T** imebound

Reduce Board Meetings to 4-6 times per year. Establish a Mentor Program.

Establish committees by types for volunteers such as:

Hospitality – Sets up for membership meetings, parties and events.

Education and Tools - Researches education information to use with tools at outreaches. One of the things this committee will do is research questions and answers for the Light-Up Board.

Ground Workers - A team that only wants to work in the garden.

Fundraisers – Bus Trip, Garden Tour, Fall into Spring and Native Plant Sale.

Communication – DTE, Web Page, and Pictures such as photography of gardens and volunteers at different locations.

The Raffle money will go for the snack providers. We will offer hot pizza night or an ice cream social in the Summer. A motion to create a Slush Fund for treats and whatever supplies are needed was made by Loretta and seconded by Kay. Passed.

The President wants everyone to feel that we are a friendly organization. Each volunteer is to work on a different project once or twice a year just to have a new experience that they may really like. The board members are emboldened to do their job. The President is there to help if they hit a roadblock. We are a Team. No one is more important than anyone else. But as team, Barslund will steer us as to what MSUE wants us to do.

**Reports:**

**Co-Ordinator - Barslund Judd**

The big thing is to re-group and create new projects. We already have a lot of projects to work on. We should be really deliberate about what projects we accept. How visible is it to the public? Where does it fit in to the big picture? Once the new standards of “educational content” are defined and developed, they will be dispersed to all project locations.

**1st Vice President – Sabrina VanDyke**

Wants to offer a Bus Trip and make arrangements to sell our own Master Gardener clothes. We need to come up with an insignia for the Genesee County Master Gardeners like a tree or plant to avoid paying a royalty to MSU.

**2nd Vice President – Loretta Ellwood**

Wants to develop system for members to accurately input speaker information into VMS.

**Secretary - Margaret Sowle**

An updated Speaker’s Contract is needed for the files.

**Treasurer – Michelle Wareham**

The President asked, “If we end up closing, what money would go to MSU?” Define what actually needs to be paid. We need a contingency plan in case of an emergency. What does our nest egg need to be? $20,000 is too much to be setting on. We are a non-profit organization.

**Director of Education and Tools – Kay McCullough**

Will keep a spreadsheet of who is working on the Outreach projects and give a copy to Barslund. We need a place to put things. Kay will keep an inventory of whatever tools we have and where they are located. We will make a request of everyone to say what they are storing. We may need some tents this Summer. Before we spend money on a storage facility, we need to know exactly what we have.

**Director of Communications – Mel Kennedy**

Upcoming events: If you know of events that might be of interest to master gardeners, Let Mel know and he will get the information to the membership.

We need one place where we can buy clothes for our different teams to have on their T-shirts. Edible Flint has their own T-shirts and they might have a good source.

**Close of Meeting:** Moved and 2nd by Michelle Wareham and Sabrina VanDyke to adjourn. Passed. Meeting was adjourned by President Joanne Gensel at 4:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Margaret Sowle, MGAGCM secretary

**2020 MGAGCM Membership Meeting Schedule:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| 1-16-20 | 2-20-20 | 3-19-20 |
| 4-15-20 – Awards Banquet | 5-21-20 | 6-18-20 |
| 7-19-20 – Picnic | 8-20-20 | 9-24-20 |
| 10-22-20 | 11-19-20 (Elections & Party) | December (No Meeting) |