Josephine County OSU Master Gardener
Unofficial Special General Meeting Minutes
January 5, 2016

Judy Anzalone	Lynda Dyck	Barbara Larson	Jim Porter
Mike Anzalone	Paula Ehrenberg	Kimberlie Lehman	Barbara Reavis
Linda Austin	John Etchells*	Sybil Longinotti+	Art Reel+
Wanda Babcock	Pat Etchells*	Cherrie Lynch	Ruth Reel*
Cally Baker*	Carolyn Farias	Judi Maxwell	Jeannette Rogers
Candace Bartow	John Farias*	Carolyn McCord	Terry Ruiter*
Jeffrey Belllamy*	Susan Finley	Phylis McIntosh	Marlene Ryther
Angie Bifano-Sokol	Joan Foley*	Jim McManus	Breezy Schallheim*
Stan Bryant	Barbara Franklin	JoAn McManus	Mark Schallheim*
Barry Burnsides	Linda Friebus	Charlie Newsom	Pat Siler
Kathleen Campbell	Rachelle Gunderson	Jeanette Olmstead	Diane Smith
Wilma Christian*	Doris Heddings	Pat Olsen	Hank Smith*
Linda Cochran	Craig Ingram	Marilyn Ormsby	Janet L Stanley
David Coon	Pattye Ingram	Lesley Orr	Billie Townsend
Diane Cooper	Barb Jackson	Karen Paxton	Diane Wickstrom*
Mary Cotton	Mary Jackson	Lori Pernarelli	Bob Wilson
Byron Coulter	Julie Kaszuba	Peter Pernarelli*	Guy B. Young
Phil Damewood	Lynn Kelly	Evie Perry	Mike Zerwer
Rita Day	Jean Kitchen*	Patti Phenix	Karen Zoufal
Linda Dean*	Jan Knapik	Karen Pleasant	Cheryl Long Riffle (guest)

WELCOME

Past President John Farias called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and welcome to everyone in attendance.

MINUTES

Candace Bartow requested that her letter of resignation as President-elect be attached to the minutes of December 1, 2015.

Secretary Pat Etchells stated that there was a factual error in the minutes. It had been stated, "*Since the By-laws only allow for the First Vice President to assume the Presidency, we will need to hold another election*." In checking into the By-Laws and descriptions of officer duties, it turns out that this is incorrect. The Second Vice President assumes the duties of the First Vice President and would subsequently fill the vacancy in the Presidency. Newly-elected Second Vice President Terry Ruiter is willing to assume the office of President.

DISCUSSION

John Farias explained that although the January meeting is scheduled to be a Board Meeting, due to the circumstances this will be a special General Meeting where all members present can vote.

John then gave a brief rundown of the events that led to this situation.

- At the end of the December meeting, both the President-elect and the First Vice President-elect resigned.
- On December 4, there was an emergency Executive Board Session with members of the 2015 and 2016 BODs to discuss the situation. After a lengthy discussion, *a motion was made by Charlie Newsom, seconded by John Etchells. We will forego the by-laws in an emergency situation and will hold a special election at a general meeting on January 5, 2016, for the vacant elected positions for the 2016 Board of Directors (President and First Vice-President).*
- This motion was e-mailed to all voting BOD members, and the motion carried.

Candace Bartow asked to speak to the group to explain why she stepped down as President-elect. This was for the sake of those not present at the December meeting. She explained that she felt she wasn't getting support from the JoCo MG BOD and the people at OSU. She had wanted to have time to work out issues with OSU but because of all the tension, she was unable to do so.

A member asked John Farias what had happened with the scheduled December 17 meeting between the OMGA Executive Committee and the Assistant Dean in charge of Extension Services at OSU. Apparently other chapters are also having trouble with OSU, but the OMGA Executive BOD decided not to bring up the issues at this time but to only have a "meet and greet." Karen Pleasant added that Gail Langellotto had thought that the purpose of the meeting was to come up with a memorandum of understanding, but this did not happen.

At the last meeting, some members had expressed the feeling that they didn't feel welcome or appreciated. John Farias attempted to survey members about some issues by a show of hands, but most people were uncomfortable doing so. Possibly a written survey will be conducted at a later date.

FILLING THE OFFICER SLOTS

President – Newly elected Second Vice President Terry Ruiter moved up to First Vice President and subsequently up to the position of President per the By-Laws and Officer duty descriptions.

John Farias asked for volunteers for the two Vice President positions. A member asked for the descriptions of the positions before nominations were taken. They are as follows:

First Vice President.

Purpose of the Position: The First Vice President shall support the President and preside over all meetings in the absence of the President, and perform such duties as assigned by the President. In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the First Vice President shall immediately succeed to that office. The First Vice President in the Events Coordinator.

Description of the Position:

- Assists the President in the preparation of the calendar and budget.
- Prepares a budget request for BOD approval. Expenses to exceed budget limits will be submitted for BOD approval.

- Chairs and organizes the October Awards Banquet Committee in coordination with the Social Committee Chairperson.
- Oversees community and social events.

Requirements of the Position: Be able to devote enough time and energy to this position. Possess leadership and organizational skills.

Jeffrey Bellamy volunteered for the position.

Second Vice President.

Purpose of the Position: The Second Vice President supports the organization and succeeds to the office of the First Vice President if a vacancy should occur for the duration of that term. The Second Vice President is the Education Coordinator.

Description of the Position:

- Assists the President in the preparation of the calendar and budget.
- Prepares a budget request for BOD approval. Expenses to exceed budget limits will be submitted for BOD approval.
- Oversees educational programs and demonstrations of interest to this organization.
- Oversees community educational programs with the President, the Social Coordinator, the Communications Coordinator, Newsletter Editor and the Extension Office.
- Oversees the Mentorship Committee.

Requirements of the Position: Be able to devote enough time and energy to this position. Possess leadership and organizational skills.

There were three volunteers: Linda Friebus, Sybil Longinotti and Diane Wickstrom.

The four Vice President candidates stood up, introduced themselves and gave a brief outline of their qualifications. There was voting by paper ballot, and the new officers were announced.

President – Terry Ruiter
First Vice President – Jeffrey Bellamy
Second Vice President – Diane Wickstrom

MASTER GARDENER COOORDINATOR – Karen Pleasant

Since some of the tension between OSU and JoCo MGA members revolves around the forms we have to sign, Karen gave an explanation. The Oregon State Board of Higher Education and the Oregon University System closed their operations on June 30, 2015. OSU is now assuming liability and insurance coverage for Master Gardener activities, and for this reason OSU wants new forms filled out for everyone. The same forms are filled out by ALL volunteers in the state, not just Master Gardeners.

Some people have objected to the "Recorded Media" paragraph in the Conditions of Volunteer Service. Karen said that nothing will change and that she won't publish anything without permission. Furthermore, people can specifically opt-out.

Likewise, with the Code of Conduct, Karen stated that nothing will change, and people won't be forced to teach.

There was a continuation of the discussion of what Master Gardener activities fall under the auspices of OSU, and Karen stated that all activities do.

TRANSFER OF THE GAVEL

John Farias gave Terry Ruiter the gavel and turned the meeting over to her. Members thanked John Farias for all he has done over the past year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- If anyone is sending get-well cards to Cliff Bennett, the address is changed to:
  PO Box 939
  Brookings, OR 97415
  There is a go-fund-me project, and links are on the website.

- John Farias will be selling bulbs in the Greenhouse after the meeting.

- Classes start on January 14, and run from 8:30 to 4:00.
  - By custom, Seniors provide lunch for the first class. Karen Zoufal requested that people have stuff to her by 8:30 and to put names and ingredients on the dishes.
  - Announcements this year will be at the end of the day. Speakers should be there at 3:45 and need to let Karen know in advance.
  - John Farias will sell bulbs at the first class.
  - Discussion on when students would select their greenhouse days. John Farias offered to do it at lunch in the greenhouse rather than by having Karen pass around a sign-up sheet, but no decision was made.
  - Mentors and Seniors present on the first day of class are requested to wear class shirts rather than the green aprons/vests.

- Perennial Tuesdays start on January 12.

- Greenhouse will start on Monday, January 18, and will run from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. There will be a trainers' meeting soon.

- Seeds of Spring brochures have been mailed, and there should be no overlap with Master Gardener classes.

- Some of the Coordinator positions were still open, but after the meeting, most were filled
  - Mentor Coordinator – Joan Foley
  - Spring Garden Fair – A committee with Jean Kitchen, Sybil Longinotti and others TBA
  - Growers Market – Hank Smith
  - Hospitality – Mark and Breezy Schallheim

NEXT MEETING: February 2, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.

ADJOURN: 10:45 a.m.

* Voting member
\+ Non-voting Board member

Minutes submitted by Secretary Pat Etchells
Subject to approval by the Board of Directors