

Minutes
Rockbridge Area Master Gardeners Association Board
November 11, 2009

The Rockbridge Area Master Gardeners Association Board met on Wednesday, November 11, 2009 at at McCoy's Restaurant in Lexington.

Barbara Thomas, President, called the meeting to order at 2:10 PM.

Attendance: Barbara Thomas, Helen Smith, Ann W. Gruner, Laura Mattingly, Kip Brooks, Faith Vosburgh, Dave Buckner, Anne Riffey-Buckner, Gerri Wenz, Amy Scheuer, Nancy Smith, Tracey Smith-Oliver

Excused: Ted Jenks, David Mims, Sherry Smith

Minutes: The minutes of the October Board meeting were approved.

Continuing Education: Kip Brooks reported that all continuing education events were listed in the RAMGA newsletter.

Barbara Thomas announced that the Virginia Biological Farming Conference will be February 19-20, 2010 in Danville, Virginia. Kip will include information in future newsletter. This will be shared with 2010 Program Committee with suggestion that they might want to schedule the keynote speaker for RAMGA if dates/travel can be coordinated.

Records: Carol is preparing newsletter article to remind people to submit their volunteer and continuing education hours by December 31, 2009.

Class Steering Committee: David Buckner reported there are 5 people registered to date. He and his committee will make phone calls to remind people who expressed an interest in the class. Committee will assemble notebooks the first week in December.

Newsletter: no report. Editor is reminded to put quick link to website each month.

Website: Several folks reported that password is not working. Gerri Wenz reported that she changed server; she will correct asap.

Treasurer's Report: Tracey Smith-Oliver reviewed Treasurer's Report for October 2009. President accepted report pending audit. Audit needs to be done in early 2010.

Tracey has gotten the new checking account set up. CD has been reinvested.

RAMGA hosted VMGA in October. Expenses were higher than normal. RAMGA will absorb extra costs.

It should be noted that last year's budget was based on 12 months, but it actually covered 16 months since we changed the RAMGA operating year to begin in January.

Budget for 2010: Tracey reworked the budget for 2010 following suggestions from the October Board meeting and emailed it to Board members. It is 22% over for all projects.

Discussion followed on several ways to increase revenue to balance the budget for 2010. Becky England will be asked to charge more for the annual bus trip to reflect true cost of the trip.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to raise RAMGA dues for 2010 to \$15.00.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve Nancy Smith, 2010 President, as the co-signer for the bank account at Bank of Rockbridge.

Plant Sale: no report.

Several Dig and Divides have been held this fall and members are over-wintering plants.

Programs: Anne Riffey-Buckner and Laura Mattingly met with incoming Program Committee, Liz Maurer and Caren Cash, to explain duties. They could use a third person on the Program Committee for 2010.

Anne presented several recommendations from Program Committee:

Train several volunteers to be in charge of audio visual equipment to relieve Program Committee of this duty. (Kathy and Jim Kvach were suggested.)

Discontinue refreshments at the monthly meetings since it has been difficult some months to get volunteers to provide refreshments.

Make dinner for speaker optional.

Everyone is requested to send suggestions for 2010 programs to the new program committee.

Projects:

The Firebaugh Garden at the Rockbridge Library does not have a team leader for 2010. Therefore, it will be discontinued.

Barbara Thomas reported that work has been completed on landscaping the new Welcome Sign for the City of Lexington. The stonework still needs to be completed. The sign is located on Route 11 north in front of Tractor Supply shopping center.

Publicity: Faith Vosburgh will be new Publicity Chair for 2010. She reported that she has done the radio program for November. Laura Mattingly has done the press releases for both newspapers for November. Faith was instructed to prepare press releases for monthly programs for both local newspapers and radio.

VMGA Report: no report

Old Business: none

New Business:

New officers and committee chairs for 2010 were welcomed. Outgoing officers and chairs were instructed to pass along RAMGA records to them and give them instructions for their duties.

There will be no RAMGA Board meeting in December. Instead the Class Committee will meet December 9 to make preparations for the 2010 Class.

Barbara Thomas, President, thanked the out-going officers for their work this past year, and gave everyone on the Board a jar of her homemade jelly.

The next RAMGA Board Meeting will be Tuesday, January 12 at 2:00 PM at the Rockbridge Extension Office. Note: the RAMGA Board meetings are changed to the SECOND TUESDAY in 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Smith, Secretary