

Meeting Summary for CGMGA Executive Board Meeting Mar 12, 2025 10:02 AM

Held via Zoom on Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Attendees: Donna DesRochers, Eric Bosler, Jen Harty, Joanne Willis, John Stevens, Kaeley Dawson, Mary Corl, Megan Wickersham, Sandi Rousseau, Shari Bosler, Tracy Willett, Margo Dameier

Quick recap

The team discussed the use of AI companion for meeting summaries, the treasurer's report, and the issue of dues payment. They also reviewed the mission and vision statements for the Central Gorge Master Gardener Association and discussed the organization and management of various gardening activities. Lastly, they discussed the upcoming festival at Bingen Park, the start of plant clinics, and the introduction of a new Zoom link for the CGMGA.

Next steps

- ☐ Megan will send the AI summary of the meeting to Donna for review and editing.
- ☐ Donna will use the AI summary and literal transcript to take notes and make corrections.
- ☐ Joanne will follow up on the Gorge Community Foundation grant update and decide on the next steps for the grant money.
- ☐ Jennifer to resend the mission and vision statement to the team for review.
- ☐ Megan to send detailed emails with training handouts to be uploaded on the website.
- ☐ Jennifer to send email to past plant sale attendees with information about the upcoming plant sale.

Summary

AI Companion

In the meeting, the use of an AI companion for meeting summaries and the process of generating and editing these summaries was discussed.

Treasurer's Report

The group discussed the treasurer's report, with Joanne providing updates on the Gorge Community Foundation funds and the decision not to use Venmo for charitable contributions. The group also discussed the issue of dues payment, with Joanne clarifying that she had contacted everyone personally and Jennifer planning to resend the link for payment. The conversation ended with a motion to approve the treasurer's report.

Last Class

Megan proposed ordering pizza for the last class. Jennifer agreed to the pizza idea and asked returners to bring sides and desserts. Megan also mentioned that the Wasco Master Gardeners are coming for a class and asked for volunteers to welcome them.

Directory

Jennifer agreed to put the directory on the website and members only link once it's ready.

OMGA

Eric updated the team on the Joy Gardening Conference and reminded them that the deadline for applying for OMGA grants and state awards is May 15. Sandi expressed interest in applying for a grant for the outdoor learning center. The team also discussed past years' applications for the patio garden, FISH signage and pollinator garden. The team also discussed the ongoing situation with Oregon State University and the need for additional support.

Mission and Vision Statements

Jennifer led a discussion on the mission and vision statements for the Central Gorge Master Gardener Association. The team agreed to shorten the statements, with suggestions to include "horticulture" or "gardening" in the vision statement. The mission statement was finalized as "Dedicated to empowering our community through education, sustainable gardening practices, and environmental stewardship." The vision statement was revised to "We promote lifelong learning with training, continuing educational programs, and community service."

Gardening Activities and Plant Sale Updates

The meeting focused on the organization and management of various gardening activities. Tracy discussed the need for volunteers to supervise work parties and manage groups, and she expressed her appreciation for those willing to help. Jennifer and Sandi discussed the plant sale, including the successful seed starting and the need for more posters. Shari reported on the progress of the plant sale banner and the QR code for the plant sale information. The team also discussed the upcoming classes on irrigation and the need for a personal shopper option for those with limited mobility.

Website

The website was updated, and there was a discussion about adding training handouts to the website.

Festival and Plant Clinics

Kaeley mentioned an upcoming garden-based event in June that the Central Gorge Master Gardeners might be interested in. Jennifer, Kaeley, Margo, Tracy, Sandi, Megan, and Shari discussed the upcoming festival at Bingen Park, which will last for three days. Jennifer expressed interest in participating in and finding out more about the event. Megan mentioned that she would announce the festival at the end of her class and encouraged trainees to sign up first.

Plant Clinics

The team also discussed the start of plant clinics, with Megan mentioning that the first one would start on April 12th. Megan asked for volunteers to help with the plant clinic classes.

T-Shirt and Jackets

Sandi asked about the color of the T-shirts and fleece jackets that Jennifer would be bringing to class, and Jennifer confirmed that they would be black. The team also discussed the possibility of allowing trainees to wear their own shirts to class.

Plant Clinics

Sandi asked about the possibility of having new trainees do an office plant clinic first, to which Megan responded that she always encourages mentors to get their trainees into the office.

New Zoom Link for CGMGA

Jennifer announced the introduction of a new Zoom link for the CGMGA Association, which will replace the current one. This new link will be used for future executive meetings and will be sent out with meeting reminders. Jennifer also mentioned the possibility of hosting the April executive meeting as a Zoom-only event. Joanne suggested the need for a protocol to manage the new Zoom link, such as a calendar to track when people set up meetings. Jennifer agreed to explore this further.

Meeting adjourned at 11:12 am. Last edited by Donna DesRochers