

Central Gorge Master Gardener™ Association
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Held on Zoom on Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 10, 2026

Attendees: Cheryl McKay, Donna DesRochers, Eric Bosler, Jen Munroe, Joanne Willis, John Stevens, Marcy Hasegawa, Margo Dameier, Megan Wickersham, Sandi Rousseau, Shari Bosler

Jen M called the meeting to order at 10:14 am.

Announcements A card will be in the plant clinic room for folks to sign and will be sent to the family of Ann Bronson. Jen M will also send cards to Tricia and Chelsea, who recently lost family members.

Secretary's Minutes (Donna) The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report (Joanne) With some expenses still outstanding, the estimated gross from the Plant Sale was over \$17,000.00 and the net is estimated at about \$10,500.00. This was much better than the OnLine Sales in the past with less work. This year's propagation combined with the Native Plants paid off. It was noted that other plant sales in the community were also advertised for the same day. The treasurer's report was approved as submitted with no questions.

Plant Sale and Parking (Eric) Parking numbers rivaled pre-covid days. The parking area was full with statistics showing that there were over 400 people in attendance this year. In the past 250 was a big day. At 9:15 am there were over 175 in line. Next year we need to look at additional parking and review the traffic patterns with safety in mind, especially with a lot of little ones coming into the mix. It was reported that the Kids' Corner had about 38 kids and the Garden Gathering had 68 with more coming. Mark and others talked to people waiting in line. The reasons for our success was discussed with possible factors including the outstanding media outreach and continued interest in gardening.

Since we are putting our name on the plants at the sale there was discussion regarding the OMG standards and guidelines for origins of plants. This year we added plants from the Hood River Soil and Water Conservation group, so we want to be sure they were not sourced from diseased plants and were raised in sterile soil. It was noted that HRSWC posts on their website sources for most of their plants. Eric will research interpretation of the guidelines on purchases from nurseries and get clarification to the Propagation Team to eliminate any question of contamination.

Coordinators Report (Megan) No updates have been received regarding OMGA's negotiations with each chapter addressing the definition of a Master Gardener. This should not affect us. The Neighborhood Garden Tour is making the final selections

with Bill Sturman's garden and possible neighbors gardens submitted at the last minute.

OMGA Report (Eric) Nothing new to add at this time. There are scholarship funds available to attend this year's Joy of Gardening from both CGMGA and OMGA. An announcement will be posted to the membership.

Outreach Team (Margo) No other updates. Megan noted that plant sale contacts were only listed as totals in VRS.

Seed to Supper (Jen M) Many thanks to Anne Gehrig for her time developing and implementing this project. Wednesday and Friday classes are going very well. The project is meeting its goal to reach food insecure clients that pop in. So far they have planted seeds and done repotting. Next will be transplanting and growing in containers. Statistics report that 75-100 attended last month. Plant sale and other local donations of tomatoes and peppers were welcomed for give away and practicing up-potting. Kids are very excited to participate. Coordinating growing plants for next year with plant sale items was discussed. It was noted that last year some families only wanted certain varieties of tomatoes (Roma) and peppers. They do not prefer dark or thick skinned tomatoes. Cucumbers were also requested. It was noted that OMGA propagation standards only apply to plant sales.

Outdoor Learning Center (Sandi) Sandi, Joanne and spouses met with Leo of Hood River Sand and Gravel regarding a major problem with the recent concrete pour. HRS agreed there is a problem. The pour does not have a smooth surface and has pock marks. The problem seems to be from 2 deliveries of improper mixes. Hood River Sand and Gravel is meeting with the regional director to come up with a solution to resolve this issue. After some discussion, it was agreed that we should not accept offers to patch the pour but should have the area taken out and repoured at the expense of Hood River Sand and Gravel. At this time we are waiting to hear HRS's proposal.

Grants (Sandi) Three grants have been submitted by Jen M, Sandi and Joanne. They are: \$7000.00 from Visit Hood River, \$4000.00 from Gorge Community Fund and \$1000.00 from Karl Carlson Grant.

Memorial Tree and other Signage (Sandi) Paul Casal is almost done with the project. A deep forest green powder coat is scheduled for next Wednesday. Mark Zanmiller made gorgeous signage for the Waterwise Garden. Sandi will talk to Mark about making additional signs for the Learning Garden and the Outdoor Learning Center.

Quarterly Association Meeting and Field Trips (Marcy) Recent schedule updates put Mosier's Idiot Grace field trip, Margaret's garden visit and Quarterly Meeting on July 16. The Idiot Grace tour of organic grape vineyards with some tasting will be 1-3 pm. After that about a mile away, Margaret's garden will host the Quarterly Meeting

potluck. Since both locations have limited parking, car pools are encouraged as well as bring your own lawn chair. The meeting will be publicized early enough to get numbers for both venues from Signup Genius.

Recognition Ceremony Location and Date (Jen M) Locations considered are Riverside, Crag Rat Hut and the Adult Center. Criteria include cost, size, lighting, parking and vehicle access. Day options are Monday or Wednesday. Date options are November 4 and November 11. The budget amount is \$500.00 for everything including prizes.

Notes The calendar on CGMGA does not put the current month at the top and it is necessary to scroll down to locate the appropriate month. Perhaps it is time to upgrade our free account to a more professional format. Also it currently takes Jen H a ton of time to keep the calendars updated and upgrading may also resolve the time issue.

Work Party Native Garden needs volunteers for the upcoming work party.

Next Meeting June 10, 2026.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.

Minutes taken by Donna DesRochers.

