

**Master Gardener Foundation of Yakima County Meeting Followed by Yakima County  
Master Gardener Program Meeting  
Minutes April 10, 2024, 10:30 AM**

**Foundation Meeting Call to Order** (10:32 AM)

**Call for Additional Agenda Items**

Opening Remarks Dan Fortier, President  
Approval of Minutes from March 2024 Dan Fortier, President  
Move to Approve: Beatrice Reisse 2<sup>nd</sup> Patty Dion. Motion Carried  
Treasurer Report (reports sent via email) Gilbert Plascencia, Treasurer  
Motion to approve: Deanna Husch 2<sup>nd</sup>: Camille Smith Motion Carried  
Greenhouse Camille Smith New soil ordered, bags organized  
Plant Sale Deanna Husch > moving along well, Patty Dion > Teams needed for Security Gates

**New Business:**

**Election of 2024-25 Board of Directors:** Debra Kroon

Nominees

Dan Fortier President 2<sup>nd</sup> year  
Rick Russell Vice President 2<sup>nd</sup> year  
Annette Olson Secretary  
Amanda Knox Treasurer  
Sheila Gunderson Member at Large 2<sup>nd</sup> year  
Beatrice Reiss Member at Large

Slate of Officers approved by MGF member vote

As part of the election of officers it is noted that the authorized account signers on all banking and investment accounts for the Master Gardener Foundation of Yakima County are: Dan Fortier and Amber Knox. **The Master Gardener Foundation of Yakima County (the Foundation) recently held officer elections and elected Amber Knox as the new treasurer for the Foundation. We expect the transition to Amber as the new treasurer to be completed by June.**

WA State Master Gardener Foundation

Melody Westmoreland

Melody, John Strong and Gilbert Plascencia are WA state foundations. She notes they serve dual roles as representatives as Yakima County Representatives and WA state board officers. She is recommending they all vote en bloc as one voice, and recuse selves when indicated for conflicts of interest.

Motion to approve Rick Russell 2<sup>nd</sup> > Sheila Gunderson Dissenting vote > Angela Galbreath  
Majority vote carried

Intricacies of state and county budgets were discussed with Gilbert Plascencia and others.

Debra Kroon thanked past officers > Gilbert Plascencia, Dick Larson and Janet Jones for their service.

**Old Business:**

Strategic Plan Priorities

Dan Fortier, President

Enhance collaboration/partnerships

Debra Kroon

Analyze infrastructure for safety

Janet Jones

Expand annual fundraising

Diana Pieti

Nomination Committee report of 2024-2025 Officers

Debra Kroon

## **Conclude Foundation Meeting: 11:17 AM**

### **Master Gardener Program Meeting** (recorded by MAL Sheila Gunderson)

#### **Team Updates & Reports**

- Program Coordinator - Patty Ratzlaff

A new activity reporting form was introduced that will be available on the website. The form is for use in our summer garden classes and classes inviting the public. It will not be used at the Farmer's Market or the fair.

A new short survey poster with a QR Code will be at each class along with a half-sheet paper form. Completion is voluntary. The survey will contain five questions, the first three are WSU requirements as a land grant school: 1. Race, 2. Ethnicity, 3 Gender, 4. Garden Location, 5. County of Residence.

- Social Media Presence - Kelli Barton Facebook: 3,961 engagements (including 526 posts, 2,201 regarding the plant sale).
- Writer's Guild and Speakers Bureau – Claudia Steen: Carol Barany has taken over contact with the YHR editing and submitting articles. We have a few new writers but more are need and interns are invited to submit articles. Phyliss Pugnetti said it is difficult to come up with ideas and encouraged anyone with an idea to contract her and she will write the article.
- Diagnostic Clinic – Kelli Barton The clinic has an increasing number of clients, please sign up for shifts.
- Arborfest – Reggie Sanderson Team is organized and ready to go on Saturday.
- Demonstration Garden – Angela Galbreath Garden is coming along. We have an owl family in the top of one of our trees.
- Food Garden – Camille Smith The garden is starting, a few items have been planted.

Good of the Order Conclude Program Meeting 11:50 AM  
1.5 hours for Board and Program Meetings

**Next Meeting: May 8, 2024, at the Red Barn at 10:30 AM**