

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 via Zoom

In Attendance: Meg Hunn, Ginger Golden, Rachael Zweig, Michelle, Wittie, Kate Shadock, Sandy

Liakus, Penny Lindgren, Beth Murphy

Guests: Carol Breck, Debi Stumpff, Jeannett Zeman, Charlene Spiegel

CHAIR, Meg: AC structure attached for the council to review. We can call ourselves a Board or Advisory Council, either is ok.

Corrales Garden Tour Liaison, Charlene + co-chair: Kate Shadock: The focus will be on sustainability.

A committee is currently working on definition of sustainability. Will have MG table at The Farm Stand garden. We will need more volunteers and docents.

New project proposed by Charlene and Debi Stumpff. The Farm Stand owners want to start a demonstration garden that could be open on the first Sundays of month. Debi is working on New Project Paperwork.

Sandy Liakus: Our mission statement is ok with NMSU. Rachael should look at the sustainability definition when complete.

AGENT, Rachael: The contract for the El Zocolo did not go through. She is now working from home. We will be notified when we need to move our supplies. To access the building either call the Economic Development office phone number posted on the door or ring doorbell. Rachael will have more classes on irrigation since the demand has been so high.

MEMBERSHIP: Mo Casey not in attendance so no report.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Kate, committee has grown. She would like people to send ideas for newsletter articles to her. They do not need to write the article. She researched sustainable gardening and printed it in the March newsletter.

The computer and printer at the El Zocolo office are working together.

We are still looking for a Mail Chimp volunteer.

EDUCATION, Michelle: The intern completion of classes ceremony will be May 6<sup>th</sup> at La Entrada Park in Corrales at 1pm. From 1pm -3pm we will distribute certificates and temporary name badges, then attendees may visit projects in Corrales. From 3pm-5pm interns can drive to Rio Rancho, Bernalillo, and Placitas to see garden projects that are 'open.'

Meg has asked all project chairs to update their projects and consider being at project on May 6.

The first half hour will be to recognize interns then they can tour Corrales gardens and other gardens. Suggest project chairs wear neon badge to identify them.

Michelle suggested mentors give interns contact information for projects. AC suggests a table set up at La Entrada for 'Working with the Public' projects.

Michelle advised an intern field trip to Santa Ana nursery opened to veterans March 16<sup>th</sup>. Other trips will be open soon. Meg mentioned the intern applications for 2024 will be rolled out to other areas in Sandoval County.

Penny expressed concern that the lecture series NMSU is rolling out next year would compete with the MG classes. She suggested querying the current interns to see if they would have taken the MG classes if the lecture series had been available. Sandy mentioned the MG mission statement and the importance of helping our communities.

OUTREACH, Penny: Congratulations to Sandy on winning second place in the International Master Gardener conference In Search Of Excellence award in the special needs gardening category.

Meg wants a video or photos of the presentation and Kate wants article for newsletter.

The committee is looking at questions that come into the helpline. They mostly have to do with watering and climate change.

The New Resident brochure is at the El Zocolo office and need to be distributed.

Work is being done on updating the Home Visit form. Rachael, Tracy, and Sandy have been working on this. Tracy has copy of new form which will be on website soon.

Colorado State lab has been closed but now opened March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Sandy asked about the management of the ad hoc events that only occur annually. Ginger responded this was her idea but thinks it would be more beneficial to have a checklist of required supplies for the event and where to find them. She is preparing same.

FINANCE, Beth: Treasury's report attached. She reminded us we need to be thinking about our budgets for next year.

STATE EMG LIASON; Sandy advised the State Bylaws state the Representative of Chapters serve two year terms. She will be stepping down and looking for replacement.

The public horticultural classes expect to be active in fall, but cost has not been determined yet. They will not be called Master Gardener classes.

Bernalillo and Santa Fe counties offer master gardener classes at higher rate. They use other programs while we use Survey Monkey. We can continue to use what we have.

FEEDBACK FROM GUESTS

Charlene expressed concern about other classes competing with MG classes. Also, she complimented Kate on the newsletter.

Debi mentioned owners of Farm Stand are interested in promoting sustainable gardening.

Respectfully submitted

by Ginger Golden, Vice

Chair