



Hardy Plant Society of Washington

Purpose: Board Meeting

Date: November 1, 2010

Location: Pamela Perrott's house

1. **Participants:** Pam Perrott, Bob Lilly, Stefani Cushing, Coral Wilde, Alice Brewer
2. Action arising from previous meeting

We discussed the fact that the November speaker has changed from Bob Lilly to Sasha Shaw. Beda had contacted Sasha earlier but somehow didn't have her on her speakers list. She will speak on noxious weeds. Grace will contact Sasha for a paragraph about her talk and a photo or two to put on our website.

Pam reported that Joan Karkeck has volunteered to do garden tours. Bob suggested we plan for 3-5 garden tours in the summer and ask Joan to set them up. We don't want members spending hours sprucing up their gardens only to have a small number of visitors. We wanted to go to Lee Neff's and Kelly's again. For distance tours we need a longer time window – it wasn't possible to do both in one trip this summer. Maybe tea at 4pm at Lee's? Dan Sparler's garden is always good. Kathy Frees, Beda Herbison, and Mary Ellen Asmundsen were also suggested. We suggested 1-2 gardens with lunch somewhere especially if the gardens are a long way away. Bob suggested Joan call him for his opinions. Alice Brewer suggested the Soos Creek Botanical garden and Richie Steffen's garden in the south sound.

Ruth Chaus sent an email saying she has the contact information for the guy looking after Marian Raitz's former garden. Grace will contact Lynne Harrison for his number and Bob will contact him about possibly doing another garden rescue there this winter.

The board then discussed the grant application to the City of Seattle, originally proposed by Suzanne Ferris. Grace submitted the grant the prior Wednesday, i.e. October 27th, 2010. It was due by November 1st. The final grant application has HPSW as the main applicant and Grace as the lead, and we'll hire Suzanne to do the design. There is a memo of understanding between HPSW and Suzanne which also says this. The memo was signed by Pamela Perrott and Bob Lilly. Grace will send the final grant documents to the board. We'll know on November 19th if we got the grant. Grace knows of other places we can apply to if we don't get this grant. We assume HPSW will maintain the garden if we get the grant and go ahead. If we do get the grant the work must be completed in 2011. We have to do a report in July and December to the city.

We also discussed (again) paying speakers. We talked about how much we have in the treasury (between \$4500 and \$5000) and the cost of renting a room for our monthly meetings. The room has been \$90/night but will be going up to \$125. The Douglas classroom is cheaper but is now too small for us. For 8 meetings a year, that's \$1000 in 2011. We don't know for sure we'll have enough plants for a plant sale in the spring. Bob Lilly reported that he and Carrie generally get \$50 when they speak. If we pay speakers \$50, for 8 meetings, that's \$400. We voted unanimously to pay \$50 to speakers starting in 2011. Pam is to ask Beda if Claire got paid, or ask Kandy.

3. Project Report – NWF&GS Booth

Suzanne Ferris and Paul Smith are going to design the booth. Paul doesn't have email. Suzanne and Paul supposedly met on the design in October. Bob will talk with Paul about progress.

4. Project Report – Website

Grace reported that Mignonne Maxwell offered to help on the website. Grace plans to change the navigation from the left side to the top, which will allow for drop down menus. She plans to install WordPress blog software for the ask the experts section, which would allow for our members to answer questions and comment on the answers. It would also allow guests to do blog entries and people could comment on the entries.

Grace also said there's a Facebook site for HPSW members which has plant sale photos and garden rescue photos. We hope to increase our exposure with the Facebook site. Grace has a prototype for the Facebook site and will send the board a link to the prototype. We need to develop an ongoing mechanism for updating the seeds list on our website. At the moment Grace has to type in all the information from a printed page. She'd rather it were more automated, or at least that she could copy and paste from an online document. Eventually it should probably be a database that the seeds folks can add to when they package seeds and which the website can access.

Grace said she wants to offer a PayPal option for people wanting to buy seeds from far away. Stefani said PayPal is easy to set up, she did it for the Land Rover club.

Grace also said we have to renew our website in February, and asked if we wanted to keep paying for our site. The board voted unanimously to renew our website for 2 years.

5. Project Report – Public Garden N/A

6. Project Report – Plant Sale

We discussed possibly planting some of our seeds for a future plant sale. Bob didn't think that would work well. He felt divisions from members gardens would work better. We are planning to do a potting up party at Kandy's to pot divisions from members gardens. Pam sent

an email asking members if they had plants to offer and had several replies, which she read out. Mignonne Maxwell has several things in pots she wants to donate. Bob called Mignonne and will contact her about pickup. They will be stored at Kandy's.

We also discussed possibly having a bulb sale. Bob said we'd need a dry, indoor place we can have for 2 weeks to package the bulbs. Pam reported that we don't have a plant sale chair yet and Bob agreed to do it for one more year.

7. Other Business

Bonnie Sharpe suggested we organize a work party to clean up Sylvia Duryee's garden. Bonnie gets seed for us from Sylvia's garden. Sylvia is ill with cancer and can't maintain her own garden. We voted to go ahead. Bob will visit the garden and see what's needed. We won't do the cleanup right away.

Anne Potter sent an email asking about having membership cards for HPSW in 2011. We have 53 members now. After discussion we voted to send a postcard acknowledging a membership payment, but not to have membership cards. Grace will have photos printed like we did for the Flower and Garden show, using her images or Lynne's, with a postcard-style back, and suitable wording thanking the member for their membership payment pre-printed.

8. Action Items for next meeting

- a) Grace to have the membership payment acknowledgement postcards printed for Anne Potter to use
- b) Bob to visit Sylvia Duryee's garden to see what's needed for a fall work party
- c) Pam to contact Joan Karkeck and ask her to call Bob to discuss garden visit suggestions

d) Grace to ask Lynne Harrison for the contact information for the person who is looking after Marian Raitz's former garden for the new owner and e) Bob to contact him about more garden rescue work parties.

f) Pam ask Beda Herbison or Kandy if Claire got paid.

g) Bob to follow up with Mignonne Maxwell about collecting the plants in pots which she wants to donate.

9. Next Board Meeting

Monday December 6th. We decided to have a board meeting in December even though we are not having a speaker in December.