



Hardy Plant Society of Washington

Purpose: Board Meeting

Date: December 5, 2011

Location: NE Branch Library meeting room

Participants: Bob Lilly, Pam Perrott, Stefani Cushing, Kandy Kroll, Terri Bates, Alice Brewer, Coral Wilde, Grace Hensley. Absent: Deborah Stuteville, Carolyn Zebrowski

1. Agenda

1. progress on taking credit cards at our sales
2. Flower and Garden show – Paul Smith and plans for our booth
3. Plant sale date?
4. Christmas party
5. Constant Contact
6. Public garden progress
 - a. Cedar Grove?
 - b. Garden shed design
7. update on logo/brand progress – Grace
8. programs for 2012
9. any other business?

2. Project Report – Plant Sale

Pam reported that we don't yet have a date for the plant sale, but she emailed Lauren Fortune at CUH to ask what dates in April might be available for the sale. Bob said the Arboretum may be able to use Building 30 again, and if so, he'll be able to set the date of the Arboretum sale.

Bob is making lists of the plants we have so far for the plant sale and sending them to Grace. **Bob** will make copies for Pam, who is planning to look for photos of the plants on the web. Pam has asked **Terri** Bates if she still has the photos she found last year on her computer and if so, could she get them to Pam.

3. Project Report – Programs

Pam needs to send a reminder about the Christmas party on Dec 18th at Lynne Harrison's house.

Pam reported that she'd emailed Beda Herbison to ask about progress on setting up programs for 2012. Beda replied that she has January and March booked, and February is the Flower and Garden show, so there is no meeting that month. These are the speakers so far:

January: Del Webber

February: Flower show, no meeting

March: David Selk, Seattle Zoo Horticulturalist

Beda has emailed other possible speakers, but they have not replied to her. She emailed them again.

4. Project Report – NWF&GS Booth

Stefani reported on her investigation so far on taking credit cards and buying cash registers. She's looking into Intuit and Squaredup for credit cards. Stef reported that cash registers are fairly inexpensive. A fancy one costs \$200 and a simpler one that would meet our needs costs \$150. Bob asked **Stefani** to bring specs on the cash registers to the January board meeting.

The Flower and Garden show committee reported on their meeting with Paul Smith before the November general meeting. It was a good meeting with him. Paul will be having knee replacement surgery this Wednesday on one knee and just after the Flower and Garden show on the other knee, so he won't be doing any of the labor for the booth. His idea is 'sticks and stones' – plants that look like sticks and stones. The plan is to weave willow wattle fences. The committee plans a field trip to the Arboretum to see the coppiced willow material there. The committee consists of Stefani, chair, Coral, Terri, Deborah and Alice. The **committee needs to meet again** and go see the willow stems in the Arboretum. The Flower and Garden show budget is \$600. We discussed the postcards for the Flower and Garden show. Bob also wants a separate handout about the plant sale which we'll give to passersby, especially on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. They should be photos of plants that look like sticks and stones, or of bark – that kind of thing. The speakers that have been booked by the time of the F&G show will be listed

on the postcard, as well as the plant sale. **Grace** will contact Lynne Harrison about photos for the postcards.

Jean, the carpenter that's been helping us with the booth, doesn't like the current booth. She doesn't think it's safe. She will build us a booth. We think there will be two pieces of wattle fencing, one on each side. We'll fill in with bamboo. We'll have a cluster of sticks and stones type plants in containers in the booth. And room for a table and chairs. Stef said she's now working full time for one of her prior part time places, and isn't working for David Smith, but she thinks she can borrow a table and chairs from David Smith anyway. **Stef** will contact both Paul and Jean.

Pam will make signup sheets for the Flower and Garden show for the Christmas party. **Pam** needs to find out how many bracelets the Flower and Garden show will send us. She thinks it's 6 per day, as in prior years.

We agreed that the seed packet giveaway was popular and we should do it again. **Kandy** will bring the seed packets to the Flower and Garden show.

We'll use our old banner, we probably won't have the new logo in time.

Pam needs to find the 3 ring binder from the Flower and Garden show.

We also agreed we need a resource/reference book there for answering questions.

We also need nametags for the show.

5. Project Report – Website

Grace said the new website is ready to be implemented. People will be able to subscribe to it, and it will automatically notify them of changes, such as meetings.

6. Project Report – Public Garden

Bob said the soil has been dug out from the bed to the right of the driveway. We can remove the tiles from the bed to the left and use them to make a mowing strip for the bed to the right. They won't excavate the soil out of the bed to the left. We'll weed out the Equisetum from between the tiles, cover the bed with landscape cloth and add compost on top.

Bob said he hasn't had a response to his request for a bulb donation yet. He may be able to buy the bulbs at 50% off. We authorized **Bob** to buy them if

he can't get a donation. He said he's looking at 3000 bulbs at about 20 cents each, which would be \$600.

Bob said the garden project can spend our money except \$6000 which we need to buy next fall's bulbs.

Pam needs to type up the people who signed up with their emails at the bulb sale.

We're ready to put in soil as soon as we've planted the bulbs. **Bob** will send Sarah at CUH a statement on bulbs, get the bulbs approved, and will get the bulbs. Having bulbs will extend the flowering season for our garden from June, July, August and September into spring, March April and May.

Pam reported that she applied to Cedar Grove today for a donation of bulk compost for the garden. There's a form on their website which she filled out. They say there will be an answer in 3 weeks.

Grace showed us drawings of the garden shed she's designed. It will be 15 feet by 8 feet. It will reuse the beams from the structure at the garden.

There are 2 15 foot by 8 inches beams, which we'll cut in two and use for the foundation. There are also heavy rafters 11 inches by 65 inches. The trellises will be attached to the shed walls on 3 sides, with a four inch space between the wall and the trellis. The shed will be covered with vines that grow up the trellis. The entrance will face north, so that wind won't blow debris into the shed when the door is open. There will be a wide double door and a ramp for taking wheelbarrows in and out. There will be an open window space for light, which will be covered by plywood and locked from inside when the shed is closed. The UWBG will provide a gravel base for the shed. The foundation on top of the gravel will be pavers. There will be 2 wheelbarrows and a ladder inside. There will be a plywood floor on top of the beams. **Grace** has not made a parts list and priced the parts yet. We need the shed by March/April 2012. **Bob** will ask David on Friday how far he's getting on the foundation for the shed. The thicket of small alders has been removed to make room for the shed already. We want a gravel pad 10 feet by 20 feet to allow room for the ramp on the north side.

Bob asked Pam to draft a letter to the membership asking for donations, and send the draft to Bob. He'll mark it up and send it back. We don't have enough money to plant all the garden we'd hoped to do in 2012. We will have some more money after the plant sale. Can we use PayPal for donations?

7. Other Business

Grace showed printouts of the logo so far. With HPSW letters on it, it doesn't scale down for the web very well. She's asked for a version without letters from Evan. We can use the version with letters for other purposes, like T-shirts. We can set up t-shirt ordering with Café Presse so people can order the size they need and we won't have to have a stock of t-shirts. We liked the idea of aprons for the volunteers at the Flower and Garden show, with our logo on them. We'd only need 2 of them.

We discussed Constant Contact briefly and decided we don't need it yet. It would be useful when we do a newsletter. We could keep our members names and addresses in it and use it to send emails to all our members.

8. Next Board Meeting January 2, 2012 at NE Branch Library 6-7:45pm