

Memphis Area Master Gardener Member Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 1, 2023

Call to Order 6 p.m.

President Jan Dickey called the Thursday, June 1, 2023, Memphis Area Master Gardener's meeting to order. The meeting was conducted in-person at the Agricenter.

Scholarship

Laura Edwards introduced five of the six scholarship recipients.

Speaker

Vice President Steve Scheer introduced Dr. Jennifer R. Mandel, associate professor of Biological Services at the UofM, who discussed "Diversity and Evolution in the Sunflower Family."

Business Meeting

Approval of the May 11, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Membership approved the minutes to the May member meeting as published.

Extension Report and Remarks

Dr. Cooper reminded the members that the 2023 interns will graduate at the Memphis Botanic Garden Thursday, Aug. 17. He thanked everyone who made TOGG and the Junior Master Gardener Plant Camp a success. Master Gardener applications for the 2024 class are available.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ginny Fletcher presented the May financial report.

New Business

Intern Graduation is August 17 at the Memphis Botanic Gardens. Donating food counts as an hour of service.

Unfinished Business

Jan Dickey reported that the Board approved the Standing Rule for Choosing the Nomination Committee.

Mary Lee Hood provided a summary of TOGG '23. There were approximately 840 attendees consisting of 20 percent master gardeners and 80 percent general public. The event had a net profit of \$3,305. QR codes featuring garden hosts' favorite plant were added for the first time. Based on survey responses, the best features were plant identification, garden design and plant knowledge.

Members who completed the survey on the experiment of bringing back a "Social Hour" responded that they want to have it occasionally, have food, and alternate it with Share and Learn. Light snacks would be provided by 10+, Junior and Senior groups.

119 members have completed the on-line member survey. Deadline is June 30.

No suggestions in the Suggestion Box.

Volunteer Opportunities/Announcements

The Audio/Visual Committee needs more members. If interested contact Steve or Jan. Summer Celebration is July 13 in Jackson, Tenn.

The Great Tomato Contest is Saturday, July 15.

Members are invited to help with pruning at Oaklawn on Thursday mornings from 8-11 a.m.

Go to the website, www.memphisareamastergardeners.org, and newsletter for more volunteer opportunities. Everyone should record their volunteer and CEU hours often.

Extension Social Media Sites: The sites are Facebook - @UT and TSU Extension Shelby County, Instagram - @shelbycoextension, Twitter - @shelbyextension, and YouTube: @UT-TSU Shelby County Extension.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:47 p.m.
Debbie Hill, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting is Thursday, July 20, 2023.