

Memphis Area Master Gardeners Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, March 7, 2024

Start Time: 4:34 p.m.

End Time: 5:41 p.m.

Location: Agricenter Meeting Room

Board Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
Steve Scheer	President
Terry Merriweather	Vice President
Ginny Fletcher	Treasurer
Jimmy Dickey	Vice Treasurer
Kelly Grayson	Recording Secretary
Susie Jabbour	Junior Director
Barbara Hodges	Senior Director
Kelsey Lyons	Ten Plus Director
Jan Dickey	Past President

Guests Present: Dr. Chris Cooper, Julie Morgan, Jan Orick, Jim Volgas

Presiding Chair: Steve Scheer, President **Minutes:** Kelly Grayson, Recording Secretary

- A. Call to order:** Steve Scheer called the meeting to order.
- B. Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:** The minutes from the February 4, 2024 board meeting were approved, as published.
- C. Extension Report and Announcements:** The intern class is halfway through and headed to field trips this week. March is Extension month and Dr. Cooper encouraged everyone to celebrate Extension with social media posts. Dr Cooper spoke at the recent Spring Seminar in Oxford, MS for the Lafayette Master Gardener Organization, which had the highest attendance to date.
- D. President:** No report
- E. Vice President:** Dale Skaggs will present "Plants That Merit Attention by Mid-South Gardeners" at the March 14 meeting. It will be in the D-wing instead of the banquet room.
- F. Treasurer:** Treasurer Ginny Fletcher presented the financial report.
- G. Recording Secretary:** No report
- H. Past President:** No report
- I. Committee Reports:**
 - a.** Parliamentarian Jim Volgas recommended that since we are MAMG, Inc and follow Robert's Rules of Order, we create a new standing committee to protect our organization by serving as advisors for changes in rules and bylaws.

- b. Julie Morgan of the website and membership committees said that technical changes are being made to the membership entries on the website. Committee pages continue to be updated.
- c. Steve Scheer shared that efforts are continuing to streamline the newsletter so that it is concise and easy to read. Items for the newsletter should be official MAMG information and need to be submitted by the 15th of the month for review by the 28th.
- d. Jan Dickey shared that 15% of the attendees at Master Gardeners Present were from the public, so they will go ahead with the program in 2025.

J. Unfinished Business:

- a. The financial committee is looking at the data to make a recommendation about a future dues amount.

K. New Business:

- a. The Board discussed changes to the bylaws that need to occur this year prior to elections. The Board will consider implementing a special committee to prioritize the most crucial changes and prepare recommended changes.
- b. The financial audit was successful.
- c. A request was made by Delta Fair for a monetary donation. The board decided against donating, and we do not have funds set aside for that purpose. Our philanthropic funds must specifically target public education rather than funding organizational operations. However, we will continue to make the fair's volunteer opportunities available to our members.
- d. An unsigned suggestion was made to start meetings at 7:00 p.m. The board decided against making this change because we frequently receive conflicting suggestions regarding meeting times and recognize there is no time that will meet everyone's preferences.

L. Announcements:

Photos are needed for the Spring Fling photo exhibit.

Adjournment: Steve Scheer, President, declared the meeting adjourned.

Next Board Meeting: April 4, 2024

Kelly Grayson, Recording Secretary

Steve Scheer, President