

## **Memphis Area Master Gardener Member Meeting Minutes**

### **Thursday, August 08, 2024**

#### **Call to Order 6:02 p.m.**

President Steve Scheer called the Thursday, August 08, 2024, Memphis Area Master Gardeners' meeting to order. The meeting was conducted in-person at the Agricenter.

#### **Speaker**

Vice-President Terry Merriweather introduced Bobby Rich III, Co-Founder of Black Seeds Urban Farms, who presented, "The Yellow Leaf Clinic: Keeping Your Plants Green and Healthy".

#### **Business Meeting:**

##### **Approval of the July 11, 2024, Meeting Minutes**

Membership approved the minutes of the July member meeting as published.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Ginny Fletcher presented the financial report.

#### **Extension Report and Remarks**

Michael Owen, County Agent for 4-H & Youth Development brought in some of the children who attended 4-H camp to share their experiences in camp this summer and to thank MAMG for their support.

Dr Chris Cooper commented on his pride in Bobby Rich for taking what he learned as a Master Gardener and using it to serve his community. The Master Gardener program pours into the members so they can pour into the community. While he is proud of what we do every day, we also have so much more work to do in educating the community, especially with the increased interest in gardening after the pandemic.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Election Committee:** Chair Linda Pittman reported that nomination forms are available in paper form and on the website. Sheets detailing duties and expectations of each office are also available. September 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. is the deadline for nominations to be turned in. Bios on each candidate will be available on the website and newsletter before the November elections. Members were reminded to check with potential candidates before nominating them and to review the candidate information before the election.

**Graduation Committee:** Jan Dickey encouraged members to sign up to bring food to graduation to help welcome our newest members into the

organization. Food is to be delivered to Dixon's Hughes Pavilion between 4:30-5:30 p.m. on August 22. Members who received an invitation should respond to Jan Orick.

**October Harvest Festival:** Terry Merriweather reminded members that the September picnic and December social have been combined into an October Harvest Festival on October 15. Sign-up sheets are available. He encouraged members to remember to mix and mingle at the event to get to know each other better.

**Horticulture Therapy:** Mary-Lee Hood reported on the expansion of the Horticulture Therapy program to three facilities. She thanked current volunteers and noted that more volunteers are needed to continue the rewarding work of bringing joy and a change of routine to the residents. Interested members should contact Mary-Lee.

**Great Tomato Contest:** Debbie Grist-Evans gave an overview of the event and the winners who were primarily from the community. She thanked the many volunteers and invited members with feedback or ideas to please share them.

President Steve Scheer thanked the Hospitality and AV crews for their work during the meeting.

## **Announcements**

Jan Hamilton, Director of the Delta Fair & Music Festival discussed contest and volunteer opportunities for the upcoming Delta Fair, August 3-September 8.

Intern Graduation is August 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the Dixon.

MAMG next meeting is September 12 at the Agricenter at 6:00 p.m.

Last Day to submit nominations for MAMG election is September 26

October 3-4 is Fall in the Gardens plant sale and lecture series at UT Jackson Gardens.

October 9-11 is TEMG State Conference

MAMG Harvest Festival is October 15 at Memphis Botanic Garden at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Kelly Grayson, Recording Secretary