

Memphis Area Master Gardener Member Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 12, 2024

Call to Order 6:07 p.m.

President Steve Scheer called the Thursday, September 12, 2024, Memphis Area Master Gardeners' meeting to order. The meeting was conducted in-person at the Agricenter.

Speaker

Vice-President Terry Merriweather introduced Celeste Luckey Scott, Western Region Horticulture Extension Specialist, who presented, "Landscape Solutions: Reliable Plants for Screens and Blooms".

Business Meeting:

Approval of the August 8, 2024, Meeting Minutes

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

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Ginny Fletcher presented the financial report.

Election Committee: Chair Linda Pittman reported that sheets detailing the nomination process and duties and expectations of each office were available and reminded members that nomination forms are available in paper form and on the website. September 26th at 4:00 p.m. is the deadline for nominations to be turned in. While some nominations have been received, more are still needed. Members should check with potential candidates before nominating them.

Finance Committee: Chair LeAnn Drewry reported that the annual budget review process is underway. All committees need to submit their requests by October 1 to give the committee time to organize a presentation for the board in November. Budget forms are available on the website under Resources. Any questions can be directed to the members of the Finance Committee.

Extension Report and Remarks

Dr Chris Cooper asked members to join him in thanking Sheila and David Sojourner for their many years of service to the organization as the class coordinators. This will be their final year and Linda Pittman will be the new coordinator.

Organization Updates and Announcements

Speaker's Bureau: Mary-Lee Hood will be stepping down as chair of the committee and a new chair is needed. The work is primarily done via email so is very flexible on work times. Mary-Lee will share all information needed for the new chair to be successful. Please let Steve Scheer or Terry Merriweather know if interested.

October Harvest Festival: The festivities will be at Memphis Botanic Garden in Hardin Hall October 15 from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm. Please use the RSVP on the website. All attendees are asked to bring food to share. Sign-up sheets are available in the office. There will be a centerpiece showcase for the table decorations with several categories of recognition. Sign up is on the website. The event will also include a selfie booth and live saxophone music.

Calendar Project: Chair Tom Rieman shared that after 11 years, due to lessening interest in printed calendars, this will be the last year the calendar will be printed. It will include a kitchen garden guide and a color in the garden year-round feature. Members can take pre-orders and pass on their member price to others and may want to get some as gifts. In the future the plan is to create an email newsletter that anyone in the community can sign up for that will include "Plant of the Month", articles, events, etc. and will link back to the website, thus connecting with more members of the community.

Spring Fling: Chair Ginny Fletcher announced that Spring Fling will be April 4-5 in 2025. The theme will be "Life is Better in the Garden". Submissions for logos would be welcome. The committee has several vacancies including demonstrations, education, and most of all, PR. The event needs many volunteers.

Announcements

September 26 - Last Day to submit nominations for MAMG election

October 1 – Budget requests due to Finance Committee

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

October 9-11 - TEMG State Conference in Nashville/Franklin

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

November 14 – Monthly meeting: Board Elections, Volunteer Fair, Refreshments (all members)

Meeting Adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Kelly Grayson, Recording Secretary