

Memphis Area Master Gardener Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, October 3, 2024

Start Time: 4:35

End Time: 5:38

Location: Agricenter Meeting Room

Board Members Present:

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

Guests Present: Dr Chris Cooper, Julie Morgan, Jan Orick, Linda Pittman

Presiding Chair: Steve Scheer, President.

Minutes: Malinda McDaniel, Acting 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 September 5, 2024 board meeting were approved, as published.

C. Extension Report and Announcements: Jan Orick, Extension Program Assistant, shared that she has gotten calls about the food signup for the Harvest Festival. Gracie Smythe finished her hours, picked up her badge and is extremely enthusiastic. Dr Cooper mentioned his attendance at a symposium at the University of Memphis where a new minor has been added to the curriculum. The minor is Agriculture Conservation Research and Education (ACRE) and will afford opportunities for partnership with the Extension office.

D. Vice President: Lisa Lawhead, the Department of Agriculture Plant Inspector for Shelby Co. will be the speaker at the December 12 member meeting. He mentioned he had gotten several requests to have Celeste Luckey Scott speak again.

E. Treasurer: Treasurer, Ginny Fletcher presented the financial report.

F. Corresponding Secretary: The framed and signed certificate has been sent to Jim Volgas.

G. Committee Reports: Julie Morgan, co-chair of the membership committee, reported that we

currently have 388 active members, 3 maybes, and one possible transfer. She mentioned that when completing the renewal for next year, members should have logged some hours in the database even if they have not entered all of them.

Linda Pittman, co chair of the Nomination Committee, indicated that there is a full ballot for the November elections. All nominees have been notified and verified.

H. Business

Autumn Harvest Festival: Terry Merriweather stated there are 183 confirmed attendees. He has worked with the Botanic Garden to add more tables to accommodate all. Ashley Burnett has been very helpful with decorations and the program.

Spring Fling: Ginny Fletcher reported that the budget request has been submitted. Jan Dickey indicated she is working with Kim Lane to expand the plant sale next year. Last year they sold out by 2:00 p.m. on Friday. They are asking if there are Master Gardeners who either have space in their greenhouses or know of anyone who does, who would be willing to keep plants over the winter for the sale. They would get volunteers to care for the plants. Jan mentioned that Collierville Junior High has an empty greenhouse, and this would be a great way to get the students involved. Dr Chris Cooper mentioned that Shelby Farms is investigating the possibility of building a green house and he will be attending a meeting to discuss. Jan Dickey also mentioned that it has come to her attention that Lichterman will not be having a seed swap next year and discussed the possibility of packing seeds and selling them at the plant sale.

Volunteer Fair: It was determined that logistically it will not work out to have the volunteer fair at the November meeting. It will possibly be planned for the January or February meeting. Jan Orick stated that we will not have a room at the Agricenter for the January and February meetings. The Memphis Public Library on Poplar and the Fed Ex Convention Center at Shelby Farms were mentioned as possible sites. The library will not take requests until November 4.

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

Next Board Meeting: November 7, 2024

Malinda McDaniel, Acting Recording Secretary

Steve Scheer, President