

Memphis Area Master Gardeners Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, October 2, 2025

Start Time: 4:32 p.m.

End Time: 5:46 p.m.

Location: Agricenter Meeting Room

Board Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
Terry Merriweather	President
Rick Clayton	Vice President
Cindy Smith	Treasurer
Paula Pilgrim	Recording Secretary
*Suzanne Shown	Corresponding Secretary
Cheryl Lockhart	Ten Plus Director
Barbara Hodges	Senior Director
Christy Gann	Junior Director
Steve Scheer	Past President
*absent	

Guests Present: Dr. Chris Cooper, Jan Orick, Kandi Reilly

Presiding Chair: Terry Merriweather, President

Minutes: Paula Pilgrim, Recording Secretary

- A. Call to order:** Terry Merriweather called the meeting to order.
- B. Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:** The minutes from the September 4, 2025, board meeting were approved, as published.
- C. Extension Report and Announcements:** Dr. Cooper reported that he and Jan Orick recently attended a Master Gardener Coordinator training event. Dr. Cooper also encouraged the board to participate in Fall Festival as MAMG celebrate their 30th anniversary and honor those who were foundational in the development of the organization.
Christy Gann gave an overview of her experience at a West Tennessee Regional meeting held at the UT Extension campus in Jackson, TN. Information from Dr. Bumgarner's survey was shared.
Jan Orick reported that the 2026 MAMG intern interviews are complete. She will be responsible for the 2026 mentoring program with Kelly Grayson's assistance.
- D. President:** Terry briefly opened discussion regarding the MAMG parliamentarian. This is a position appointed by the MAMG president and is in process.
- E. Vice President:** Rick Clayton reviewed the details of Fall Festival food drop-off. He noted that a plaque will be present to Booker T. Lee by Dr. Cooper in recognition of his work in

establishing MAMG thirty years ago. He also encouraged participation in the centerpiece contest.

F. Treasurer: Cindy Smith presented the financial report noting that it will be published on the website.

G. Recording Secretary: In Suzanne Shown's absence Dr. Cooper shared thank you notes and memorials received in the past month.

H. Directors: No report

I. Committee Reports:

a. Nominating Committee- Kandi Reilly, committee chair, presented the slate of candidates for the 2026 MAMG Executive Board. There is one nominee for each position with Junior Director having two nominees. The vote will be held at the November 13, 2025, membership meeting. Food will be provided by 10+ members.

b. Bylaws and Standing Rules Special Committee- Steve Scheer, committee chair, reported that the first of two sets of updates were approved by membership vote at the May 8, 2025, membership meeting. The remaining set will be presented at the November 13, 2025, membership meeting with the vote to be held at the December membership meeting.

c. Membership-Terry reported on behalf of Linda Weiss that we currently have 381 members.

J. New Business

*The 2026 Budget is in process with an October 7, 2025, deadline for submissions. First draft will be presented at the November Board meeting. Membership will vote on the final proposed budget at the December 11, 2025, membership meeting.

*A member complaint regarding audiovisual issues received after the September meeting was read. Discussion was opened regarding needs for updated equipment and for volunteers for the AV Committee.

Adjournment: Terry Merriweather, President, declared the meeting adjourned.

Next Board Meeting: November 6, 2025

Paula Pilgrim, Recording Secretary

Terry Merriweather, President