

Memphis Area Master Gardeners Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, November 6, 2025

Start Time: 4:31 p.m.

End Time: 6:03 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, LeAnn Drewry, Ashley Rae Burnett

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 November 6, 2025, board meeting were approved, as submitted.
- C. Extension Report and Announcements:** Dr. Cooper reported that there are 44 interns in the 2026 Master Gardener class. Orientation is planned for November 15, 2026. Jan Orick reported that mentors are needed.
Additionally, Dr. Cooper recently attended a meeting with the UT extension agents and Shelby County Commissioners. After the loss of 4 agents due to termination of SNAP Ed. funding, he is working to get agents rehired or replaced.
- D. President:** No report
- E. Vice President:** No report
- F. Treasurer:** Cindy Smith presented the financial report. The September and October reports will be posted on the MAMG website. She reminded that membership renewals are underway. In the future she recommends that the process allow payment of credit card processing fees rather than passing this expense to the organization.
- G. Recording Secretary:** No report

- H. Corresponding Secretary:** Suzanne Shown confirmed the process for membership notification of illness or death. Upon receipt of notice of illness or death, the director will notify the corresponding secretary who will obtain permission for publication on the MAMG website. Once permission is granted, the information will be forwarded to the Webmaster and all directors who then notify members. The corresponding secretary will handle communication of condolences to the family.
- I. Directors:** Barbara Hodges, Senior Director, noted that her constituents have recently posed various questions that have answers readily available on the MAMG website. All directors will remind members of the wealth of information on the website and encourage regular visitation of the website.
- J. Committee Reports:**

Membership Committee- In the absence of the committee chair, Terry Merriweather reminded that membership renewal is underway. Renewals may be handled on the website, via the link in the newsletter, or in person at the upcoming membership meeting.

Finance Committee- LeAnn Drewry, Chair, presented the working 2026 budget proposal. There are still areas that need to be addressed to more closely align requests with past expenditures. The budget will be presented at the December membership meeting.

Website Committee- Ashley Rea Burnette, Chair, presented a possible revenue opportunity for MAMG. The State of Tennessee has received a grant for city and county improvements. After discussion, details of the scope and requirements of application will be explored prior to moving forward.

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

Next Board Meeting: December 4, 2025

Paula Pilgrim, Recording Secretary

Terry Merriweather, President