

Memphis Area Master Gardener Member Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 9, 2026

Call to Order 6:01 PM

President Rick Clayton called the Thursday, July 9, 2026, meeting to order. The meeting was conducted in person at the Agricenter.

Speaker

Vice President Jan Dickey stated that the format for the speakers was a direct result of Day of Education/ Each One Teach One. She introduced Kim Lane who further explained the plan for "Garden Academy", which will allow one to three members to speak about an area of expertise. Planned twice yearly, this will engage more members in horticulture education preparing them for educational opportunities in the community. Mike Farnsworth spoke about "Remote Irrigation Solutions Using Solar Power". Daniel Stewart spoke about "Identifying Insect Helpers and Pests in Your Garden".

Introduction of Scholarship Recipients

Genie Ashworth, Scholarship Committee chair, reviewed the history and mission of the MAMG Scholarship Program. She introduced Kate Metcalf, one of the three recipients for the 2026-2027 academic year. Ms. Metcalf is studying Environmental Science at UNC, Chapel Hill. She expressed sincere thanks to membership for her award. Also receiving scholarships are Isabella Mitchell (who was introduced at the June member meeting), and Braden Burdock, a second-year recipient studying Agricultural Medicine and Biotechnology at University of Kentucky.

Business Meeting:

Approval of the June 11,2026, Meeting Minutes

The vote to approve minutes of the June membership meeting was deferred until the August 2026 meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Cindy Smith, presented the financial report.

Extension Report and Remarks

Jessica Maestas announced that application to the 2027 MAMG intern class has closed. Interviews will be completed by August 8, 2026, with applicants notified by mid to late August regarding acceptance. Jessica also asked members to kindly volunteer for upcoming "Ask a Master Gardener" opportunities.

Announcements

Vice president, Jan Dickey, reminded that the 2026 Intern class graduation is August 20, 2026, at Dixon Gallery and Gardens. Family members and mentors are invited to attend.

She also announced that the MAMG Fall Party is October 8, 2026, at Bartlett United Methodist Church gymnasium from 6 to 8 pm. This will be a picnic themed event. Volunteer opportunities will be available.

Ginny Fletcher has MAMG tee shirts available for sale.

Collierville Victory Garden shared Burpee seed packets donated by Kroger with all members at the conclusion of the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Paula Pilgrim, Recording Secretary