

Memphis Area Master Gardeners Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, October 1, 2026

Start Time: 4:32 p.m.

End Time: 6:09 p.m.

Location: Agricenter Meeting Room

Board Members Present:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
Rick Clayton	President
Jan Dickey	Vice President
Cindy Smith	Treasurer
LeAnn Drewry	Vice Treasurer
Paula Pilgrim	Recording Secretary
Barbara Hodges	Corresponding Secretary
Cheryl Lockhart	Ten Plus Director
Debbie Hill	Senior Director
Ricky Clarke	Junior Director
Terry Merriweather	Past President

* Board member not present

Others Present: Christina Clapsadle- parliamentarian, Genie Ashworth, Linda Pittman, Kim Lane, Cathy Bellehumer

Presiding Chair: Rick Clayton, President

Minutes: Paula Pilgrim, Recording Secretary

- A. Call to order:** Rick Clayton called the meeting to order.
- B. Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:** The minutes from September 3, 2026, board meeting were approved, as published.
- C. Extension Report and Announcements:** no report
- D. President:** Rick Clayton informed the board of the passing of Irene Volgas, who is survived by her husband Jim Volgas, a former MAMG member. Rick also reported the recent passing of former member Jim Golladay.
- E. Vice President:** Jan Dickey reminded that the indoor picnic is October 8 from 6:00-8:00 PM. Side dishes are still needed and may be dropped off at Bartlett United Methodist Church from 5:00-6:00 PM. Peanut butter donations for the food pantry at the church are welcomed.
- F. Recording Secretary:** No report
- G. Corresponding Secretary:** Condolences and memorials were handled.
- H. Directors:** No report
- I. Treasurer:** Cindy Smith presented the financial report.
- J. Vice Treasurer:** LeAnn Drewry reminded that budgeting for 2027 is underway.

K. Committee Reports:

- a. **Scholarship Committee:** Genie Ashworth, Chair of the Mary Wade Scholarship Committee, gave a comprehensive history of the work of the committee since its inception.
- b. **Election Committee:** Linda Pittman, Chair, reported that nominations have been received for each position on the Executive Board. October 10th is the final day to submit nominations which may be done through the website.
- c. **Finance Committee:** Kim Lane, Chair, stated that the primary focus of this committee is to audit the financial records of the organization. The five members have noted the excellent work of the current Treasurer Cindy Smith and Vice-Treasurer LeAnn Drewry. Cathy Bellehumer, incoming 2027 chair, noted that there will be one vacancy on the 5-person committee next year. She will draft an announcement to be shared by the Directors to ask for members to consider serving. It was noted that the Finance Committee and the Treasurer and Vice Treasurer need to collaborate as the 2027 budget requests are submitted.

- L. New Business:** LeAnn Drewry in consultation with Website Chair, Ashley Burnette, has tested a new sign-up platform. This free add-on would allow formatting of multiple sign-ups and would eliminate the use of paper sign-ups at meetings and in the Extension office. Ashley submitted a proposal for a one-time work fee of \$250 to add this to the MAMG website and make it accessible and functional. An upgrade to a paid add-on providing for more administrators is possible for future needs. After discussion Cindy Smith made a motion to approve the expenditure of \$250 to Ashley Burnette for the afore-mentioned work. This was seconded and approved by majority vote.

Adjournment: Rick Clayton, President, declared the meeting adjourned.

Next Board Meeting: November 5, 2026

Paula Pilgrim, Recording Secretary

Rick Clayton, President