

**St. Charles Master Gardener  
Steering Committee Minutes**

**October 13, 2023**

**Attendees:** Joe Walker, Laura Steimel, Catherine Ebone, Cindy Platzer, Marsha Brown, Donna Lindsey and Sydney Turner.

**Call to Order:** Joe Walker called the meeting to order at 9:06.

**Quorum and Attendance:** Catherine Ebone verified quorum and attendance.

**Secretary's Report:** Catherine Ebone—Steering Committee minutes for September 2023 were accepted as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** Rebecca Poon—Money in the bank at the end of September was given. Expenses were given including metal edging and stones. The report was approved as submitted.

The treasurer position will be open in January. Possible candidates were discussed.

A budget needs to be developed for 2024.

It was discussed where the credit card will be stored.

**MU Horticultural Specialist/ Coordinator:** Eli Eisle—Eli was not present, but it was noted that core training will be in person in 2024. Seven people have expressed interest in acting as facilitators. A facilitator checklist has been generated. Eli is to find trainers. Classes start on Jan.25. Registration begins Nov.1.

**501 c (3):** Marsha Brown—A budget needs to be created for 2024.

**MOMGA:** An exploratory team has been formed and is gathering information from other chapters that have hosted the conference recently.

**Membership:** Sydney Turner, Waneta Parmenter, Bonnie Winkler—Ashley Seis, a transfer from Nashville, who transferred to St. Louis is transferring to our chapter. The committee is analyzing data entries for accuracy.

**CE and AT:** Bonnie Winkler—Any class from a university listed as AT will be accepted as AT for our chapter. Updates are being added to class lists.

**Education:** Patti Kolek—In the Garden classes are being developed and speakers are being identified.

**Plant Sale:** Marsha Brown, Catherine Ebone—Marsha announced a meeting is planned with the new Demo Gardens Plant Sale Liaison to determine plant needs for the individual gardens. Seeding and transplant dates have been set.

**Greenhouse:** Laura Steimel, Nancy Torke—Greenhouse clean-up date is Oct 21. The back-up date is Nov.4. New doors will be installed after the clean-up. The money for the doors is already in the budget.

**Hoophouse:** Donna Lindsey—Dig and divide is ongoing.

**Demo Gardens:** Cindy Platzer—A total of 16 tours were scheduled with 3 cancelled. 48 people attended the tours.

17 trainees participated in From the Ground Up project.

A leads meeting is scheduled for Sept.9 with another scheduled for Dec. 2.

The bricks commemorating 1000+ hours will be installed this fall.

The shed is being cleaned out and a tool sharpening class is scheduled in November.

**Hortline:** Patti Kolek—Hortline volunteers will now be taking questions from home. The in-office presence is done until spring. Patti said questions about core classes should not go through the Hortline.

**Upcoming Speakers:** Val Mertz

Mary Medina will speak Oct. 26 on the top 20 Botanical Gardens around the country.

**Paul Hendricks Award:** Nominations for the Paul Hendricks Award should be sent to Valerie Mertz at [vbmertz@msn.com](mailto:vbmertz@msn.com)

**Old Business:** The Holiday Party will be held Dec.1. In addition, there will be a diaper drive and silent auction. Members and their guest (1) need to sign up on Sign-Up genius and indicate which dish they would like to bring. Paper goods, utensils, meat and bread will be provided. Anyone who wishes to help plan the party is welcome.

**New Business:** The positions for treasurer and vice president are open for nominations for a two-year term starting in January. Nominations will be voted on at the October general meeting

The next SC meeting will be Nov.10.

The general meeting will be held Oct.26 with no meetings in November and December.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48.

Respectively submitted,

Catherine Ebone