

St. Charles Master Gardeners

Steering Committee Minutes

September 13, 2024

Attendees: Joe Walker, Rebecca Poon, Laura Steimel, Catherine Ebone, Cindy Platzer, Patti Kolek, Donna Lindsey, Eli Eisle

Call to Order: Joe Walker called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

Quorum and Attendance: Catherine Ebone verified quorum and attendance.

Secretary's Report: Catherine Ebone—A motion was made and approved to accept the Aug. 6, 2024 as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Rebecca Poon—Rebecca reported the expenses and income for August. She stated that \$3,000 had been transferred to savings as directed at the last meeting.

Rebecca responded to a query from Cindy Platzer on how to handle expenditures from designated funds. She clarified the procedure as follows:

1. The lead for the garden can spend an additional amount equal to the donation amount in the designated subaccount.
2. The lead for the garden area or the overall lead for Demo Gardens is responsible for tracking what is spent against the donation amount.
3. The Treasurer will add a column in the Budget vs Actual Report to incorporate information on the donated funds. It would make it clear that there is no overspending because of the additional funds.
4. Approved budget amount will not be revised.

A motion was made and approved to accept the Treasurers Report for August as submitted.

Extension: Deana Dothage—An Extension Expo will be held Oct. 10. MGs will have a table and offer Garden tours.

The Steering Committee decided not to pursue the Mizzou Alternative Breaks opportunity.

501(c)(3): A new agent of record needs to be identified.

Membership: Kevin Lynch, Waneta Parmenter, Bonie Winkler—Membership is reaching out to online trainees. The committee is working on ironing out some new procedures.

A question was raised about age requirements. The committee will check with Debbie Kelly and other MG chapters in the area.

The committee will meet on Sept. 16th.

CE/AT: Bonnie Winkeler—The committee has determined that drive time to and from the State Convention can be counted as volunteer hours. The 2 classes designated as AT by the convention will be accepted as AT. According to Eli the Private tour can be counted as CE but the tour of the Loess Bluffs cannot.

Cindy Platzer asked the committee to further define what qualifies for an internal MG class.

Education: Patti Kolek--" In the Garden" public classes will be held Jan. 11, Feb, 8, and April 12. These classes are not designed for MGs. Peggy Hammond and Dawn Tucker are planning a scavenger and geocaching event for next summer.

Extension Specialist: Eli Isle—Eli said the cost of making badges has not traditionally been taken out of class registration. The in-person core training classes will have the same format as last year with classes 9-noon on Thursdays.

Plant Sale: Donna Lindsey, Catherine Ebone—A meeting is planned for Sept. 5. On Nov 23 there will be a planning meeting and a workshop on Learning How to Grow at Home.

The greenhouse is prepping for a new floor. Everything will be taken out of the greenhouse Oct. 9 with screening being put down Friday after the SC mtg Oct 11 and continuing through the weekend. The following Wednesday everything will be bleached and put back in the greenhouse.

Dig and Divide will be held Wednesdays and Saturdays in October and November.

Demo Gardens: Cindy Platzer—The Extension has turned the Kiosk project back to MGs. It will be placed in the Enabling Garden. A major renovation is planned herb garden. The Extension may fund some of it.

The St. Louis MGs have been invited for a tour Oct 19th.

The Demo Garden plans on spending their entire budget.

Cindy has agreed to be Demo Garden lead again next year,

Hortline: Patti Kolek—Hortline will end its in-office presence in mid-October.

Farmers Market: Patti Kolek—Farmers Market in St. Charles will be the last farmers market for the year. We will no longer be able to hand out anything with our stickers on it that is not generated by MU.

Upcoming Speakers: Val Mertz

Nominations for the Paul Hendricks award will be open until Oct. 30. Send nominations to Val Mertz.

Sept. 25—Amy Templer will speak on “Storm Mitigation: Controlling Erosion and Sedimentation Through Post Construction at Residential Sites”.

Oct. 24—Possible topic is Genetic Diversity in Corn. Nothing is confirmed.

New Business:

Marsha’s Celebration of Life will be Sept. 14.

We need to recruit new members for officer positions on the Steering Committee. President and Secretary positions will be up for election.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am,

The next SC meeting is Friday Oct. 11.

Respectively submitted,

Catherine Ebone