

St, Charles Master Gardeners

Steering Committee Minutes

July 12, 2024

Attendees: Joe Walker, Laura Steimel, Catherine Ebone, Patti Kolek, Donna Lindsey Wanetta Parmenter and Kevin Lynch.

Call to Order: Joe Walker called the meeting to order at 9:04.

Quorum and Attendance: Catherine Ebone verified quorum and attendance.

Secretary's Report: Catherine Ebone—A motion was made and approved to accept Steering committee minutes for June 14, 2024 as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Rebecca Poon—Rebecca is on vacation and out of town until July 15th. The June reimbursements after 6/14 and June month closing figures will be delayed until she returns home.

An Extension review of all Extension programs is underway. Rebecca has turned over all requested reports.

MU Horticulturalist Specialist/Coordinator: Eli Isele—Eli couldn't attend.

Extension: Deana Dothage—To access the building only use the key fob unless the power is out. In the case of power outage, you must lock the door with the key when you leave.

When someone uses a key (not the fob) to unlock the building door, the remote access is disabled. The door would have to be locked with the key so that remote access is enabled.

501 (c) (3): Agent's paperwork for the Missouri corporation will have to be updated to replace Marsha as agent of record.

Membership Committee: Waneta Parmenter, Kevin Lynch, Bonnie Winkler—Eli has approved the removal of the sliding scale for education hours. More volunteers are needed for the education committee as Waneta wants to step down.

The membership committee raised several questions about initial reporting of hours by trainees before and after completing the class. Membership is looking for consistency so all new trainees get the same information. These items were discussed but no decision was made.

CE/A: Bonnie Winkler, Jim Stellern, Beka Davis, Maureen Walmsley—the group has been meeting monthly and working on changes.

Education: Patti Kolek—Patti said that Winter classes are a maybe. Speakers Bureau has been slow.

Plant Sale: Donna Lindsey, Catherine Ebone, Cindy Heider—Donna announced that plant sale and seeding party dates have been set. A meeting was held July 10 with all Plant sale heads to discuss what worked this year and possible changes for next year. Another meeting is planned for Sept. 5th.

Greenhouse: Laura Steimel. Nancy Torke—Laura announced that there are still a few trays in the greenhouse that need to be washed.

Communication: Melanie Elick, Jeanne Ferfuson—Melanie would like to discuss what the committee expects regarding facebook, website, advertising. She would like a job description to make it as clear as possible.

Demo Gardens: Cindy Platzer—The gardens are in good shape. A lead is needed for the arboretum.

Hortline: Patti Kolek—Questions have been across the board.

Farmers Market: Patti Kolek—New Melle was slow; St. Charles was huge.

Upcoming Speakers: Val Mertz

July 26—Chuck Baur will speak on pH.

Aug. 22—Carrie Coyne, Horticulture Program Facilitator STLCC, will speak on “Growing the Horticulture Industry Workforce”.

Old Business: We need a better procedure for handling questions/complaints/ suggestions.

New Business: Donna Lindsey has been named Acting Plant Sale coordinator and will take a seat on the Steering Committee.

Eli is planning on having the in-person MG core training in early 2025.

The next steering committee meeting is Aug, 9.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38.

Respectively submitted,

Catherine Ebone