

St. Charles Master Gardener

Monthly Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2024

If you have any questions, comments, or corrections before these minutes are approved, please contact your MG secretary, Catherine Ebone at catherine.ebone@gmail.com.

Laura Steimel along with Nancy Torke presented a slide show on Greenhouse procedures.

Call to Order: Joe Walker called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Joe Walker reminded members that any questions regarding how to correctly record volunteer and education hours should be directed to the Membership committee. Published guidelines are also available as a link on the chapter website. Also, trainees should contact Sydney Turner at turnsydney226@gmail.com or Waneta Parmenter at weparm@outlook.com after they have earned volunteer orders to be recorded.

This was an in-person meeting with a zoom link provided.

This meeting was the annual awards presentation.

Steering Committee: The steering committee for 2024 was announced.

Joe Walker: President

Laura Steimel, Vice President

Rebecca Poon, Treasurer

Catherine Ebone, Secretary

Cindy Platzter, Demo Garden Lead

Patti Kolek, Education Committee

Marsha Brown, Plant Sale

Secretary's Report: Catherine Ebone—The secretary's report for October 2023 was approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Rebecca Poon--Income and expenses for December 2023 were reported. It was noted that money was transferred to the savings account. Rebecca also stated that the book balance agrees with the bank statement. A motion was made and approved to accept the report.

501 c 3: Marsha Brown—The books will be audited in January.

Membership: Sydney Turner, Waneta Parmenter, Bonnie Winkler—Sydney reported that 14,825 volunteer hours were recorded with 1742 education and 200 advanced training hours were recorded in 2023, up over 2,500 hours from last year. She also reported there are 147 active members in our chapter.

Four people: Nancy Torke, Mark Krebs, Jill Zuppa and Glenda Duffey, earned 1,000 cumulative hour bricks which will be placed on the Extension grounds.

Five people received 1,000 pins; 2--750; 2—600; 2—500; 3—400; 7—300; 8—200; 26—100; 33—50. Three people earned emeritus status this year. Rebecca Davis also received her advanced training badge. 23 trainees also completed the MG course.

It was announced that the Native Refresh project received the state Master Gardener Project of the Year award and Donna Lindsey received the state Master Gardener of the Year award.

The Paul Hendricks award went to Tom Conley.

Education Committee: Patti Kolek—Speakers Bureau is looking for additional speakers.

Hortline: Patti Kolek—Training for Hortline is being planned. Experienced MGs are being sought.

Upcoming Speakers: Val Mertz—Watch the Monday Morning News for upcoming speakers.

Plant Sale: Marsha Brown, Catherine Ebone—There will be seeding parties Feb. 3 and Feb. 21. Watch the MMNs for the latest news.

Demo Gardens: Cindy Platzer—The Demo Garden is scrounging for needed items. A list of items needed will be in the MMNs. If it's not on the list, contact Cindy.

Help is needed to wash trays in March.

Phoebe Martin is the new lead for the Pantry Garden. The straw bales will be inoculated with mushroom spores in late February. The Pantry Garden will be adopting out beds again this year. About 8-10 are needed to commit to beds. Vegetables grown in the beds are donated to the J&A food pantry.

Good of the Order: Eli Isle thanked MGs for helping get the MG core training class together.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09.

Respectively submitted,

Catherine Ebone