

St. Charles County Master Gardeners

Steering Committee Minutes (Draft)

February 10, 2023

Attendees: Joe Walker, Rebecca Poon, Laura Steimel, Cindy Platzer, Catherine Ebone, Marsha Brown, Donna Lindsey, Sydney Turner, Patti Kolek and Mary Medina.

Call to Order: Joe Walker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Catherine Ebone confirmed Quorum. The meeting was a hybrid meeting.

Secretary's Report: Catherine Ebone—Steering committee minutes for January 13, 2023 were approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report: Rebecca Poon—A motion was made to approve the 2023 budgeted expenses projection as presented. After discussion the budget expense projection was approved. A motion was made to authorize Rebecca to release \$10,000 for expenses with breakdown as outlined. The motion passed. Figures will be reassessed after Plant Sale in May.

Rebecca reported expenses, revenue and net income for January.

MU Horticultural Specialist: Eli Isele—Eli reported core training has started.

501 c (3): Marsha Brown—Marsha stated there's nothing new on the 501 c (3). She stated we're waiting on the state to approve tax exemption for purchases. We can still use the MU extension tax exemption.

Extension Council: Patti Kolek—The annual Extension Dinner is March 16. The dinner is by invitation only.

Membership Committee: Sydney Turner, Waneta Parmenter, Bonnie Winkler—Sydney made a request for a motion to approve Leslie Limberg and Mary Carey for emeritus status. A motion was made, and it was approved. The membership roster of 120 MGs has been submitted to MOMGA. Dues are \$2 a member. A motion was made to approve payment of \$240 for MOMGA membership dues. It was approved.

Eli approved Amanda Burk-Nichols to rejoin the St. Charles County Master Gardeners so she can start earning hours for 2023. She had been inactive for 5 years. Jennifer Dali was also approved as a transfer from Mississippi.

Education Committee: Patti Kolek—Patti said the committee is looking for a lead for the speaker's bureau. Terry Scheer has agreed to be acting lead until the bureau gets fully up and running. Online signups and tracking payments were discussed.

Plant Sale, Greenhouse, Hoophouse—Marsha Brown announced that seeding parties are scheduled and are being posted in the newsletter. Marsha also announced that as a 501 C (3) no one is allowed to buy supplies from the group. The new fan has been installed and the heat went on today.

Communication: Mary Medina –Membership is developing a list of names that Mary can drop from the Monday Morning email list.

Demo Gardens: Cindy Platzer—Cindy announced that she is down two leads. A quarterly leads meeting will be held in March.

Hortline: Patti Kolek—Patti announced that a Hortline training class will be held May 9th. A hortline presence in the Extension office will begin in mid-March.

Farmers Markets: Patti Kolek—Patti said that farmer’s markets will be starting in May.

Speakers Bureau: Val Mertz

Feb. 23—Mike Hoyle, MO wildflower Nursery will speak on saving and growing native seed.

March 23—Rodney Dever, partner at Peterson’s Papaws, will do a zoom presentation on his work creating new and improved varieties of papaws.

April 27—Matt Schindler, CEO of Seed St. Louis, will speak on empowering communities to grow their own food.

Old Business:

Master Gardener T-shirts-Sydney Turner

Sydney reported that she had found a new printer for MG t-shirts. The new printer, FOOBADAP, gave us more options. A motion was made and approved that the T-shirts would feature the new logo across the front. Two colors and 4 options would be available. The company will develop a webstore where MGs can order and pay for their t-shirts online. When ready, Sydney will pick up the t-shirts and distribute them. A \$200 refundable deposit is required.

A motion was made that we go with FOOBADAP to print our T-shirts and that we pay them the \$200 deposit. It was approved.

New Business:

A list of garden leads with their emails will be published in the MM News.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25.