

St. Charles Master Gardeners

Steering Committee Minutes

February 8, 2024

Attendees: Joe Walker, Laura Steimel, Rebecca Poon, Catherine Ebone, Cindy Platzer, Patti Kolek, Marsha Brown (zoom), Donna Lindsey, Waneta Parmenter (zoom), and Sydney Turner.

Call to Order: Joe Walker called the meeting to order at 9:05.

Quorum and Attendance: Catherine Ebone verified quorum and attendance.

Secretary's Report: Catherine Ebone—Steering committee minutes for Jan.12, 2024 were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Rebecca Poon—Receipts have been received for WIX and Constant Contact. Expenses and Income for December 2023 were reported. A motion was made and approved to accept the report as presented.

Policies and procedures are being developed for designated donations and usage of the MG Credit Card.

A pie chart based on 2023 income and 2024 proposed expenses was requested for the general meeting to visually show MGs how money is allocated.

Laura Steimel and her committee are working on the annual audit required by the 501 c 3 bylaws.

MU Extension Specialist/Coordinator: Eli Eisle—Eli was unable to attend. It was reported that the online core training class includes 6 for St. Charles.

Three people have dropped out of the in-person core training leaving 35 on the roster.

Gratitude was expressed for the MG volunteers who are helping with the class.

Extension: Deana Dothage—Deana has requested an insurance quote for the greenhouse. The committee was reminded about the 2024 Christmas card signing for servicemen.

501 c 3: Marsha Brown—Formal audit procedures are being developed. Documentation is being developed to better clarify qualifications for corporation members versus chapter members.

Membership: Sydney Turner—Sydney reported that we have 133 certified members. A motion was made and approved to send a check for \$266 (\$2 per member) to MOMGA for membership dues.

Frank 'Del' Moeller has applied for emeritus status. Membership verified he has met the criteria for emeritus and a motion was made and approved to accept the request.

CE and AT: Bonnie Winkler—Updates are being provided for the class lists.

Education: Patti Kolek—Registration is open for the February and March “In the Garden” classes. The February class is not filled yet.

Plant Sale: Marsha Brown, Catherine Ebone—February seeding party was well attended.

Greenhouse: Laura Steimel, Nancy Torke—Greenhouse is open, and watering has begun.

Hoophouse: Donna Lindsey—Hoophouse is not open yet.

Demo Gardens: Cindy Platzer—Trainees are turning in their interest surveys. A nomination for Master Gardener of the Year is being prepared for Rebecca Davis. A leads meeting is planned for March.

Hortline: Patti Kolek—A hortline training class is scheduled for March 26 at 10 am.

Upcoming Speakers: Val Mertz

February—Kent Brown of Show Me HH Farm will speak on sunflower farming.

March—John Miller will speak on Purple Martins.

April—Jenny Fagan, longtime member of Webster Groves Herb Society, will speak on how to grow and use herbs.

The Hays Home at Matson Hill is being considered for a field trip on a non-meeting night in either May or June. It will cost \$6 a person.

Old Business: Sydney Turner—Sydney brought up ordering T-shirts again this year. We would use the same source as last year and possibly add new colors and other items. The committee was favorable to the idea.

Good of the Order: Donations were briefly discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15.

Respectively submitted

Catherine Ebone