

Pulaski County Master Gardener

Board Meeting via Zoom

October 20, 2020

Members Present: Randy Forst, Sharon Priest, Cindy Strauss, Suzanne Potts, Michelle Wasson, Carol Mendel, Jodie Mahony, Pam Gadberry, Susan Stewart, Ann Schewitzer, Sara Jordan.
Guest Jody Jackson.

Welcome: President Sharon Priest called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Presentation: Jody Jackson presented proposed updates to the Little Rock Greenhouse. Work will be a renovation of the sprinkler system in both buildings by Scott Simmons of Hocutt's Nursery. A liquid fertilizing system and one year of maintenance is included in the \$5000 cost. Funds will come from the Greenhouse Trust Fund. Michelle made a motion to approve the project, Jodie seconded. The motion passed.

Minutes: September Board and General Minutes were presented. A motion was made to approve, Jodie seconded. The motion passed.

Old Business: Ann Schewitzer presented information regarding the possible inclusion of a Mablevale Jr. High greenhouse as an PCMG project. No decision or proposal was made.

New Business: Sharon Priest shared information from the Arts Center regarding upcoming elimination of the Contemplation Garden project. Potential options for replacing the project were mentioned but no decisions or proposals have been made.

Treasurer/Budget: Pam Gadberry presented both bank statements. Funds for the Janet Carson Endowment were discussed. Randy announced Master Gardener programs statewide have placed a temporary hold on contributions for the scholarship. The issue will be decided at a later date. The budgeted amount for the Demonstration Garden will need to be adjusted.

Projects: Cindy Strauss reported all but 6 projects have responded regarding a need for additional members. She is waiting for information from those projects.

Standing Committees: Carol Mendel shared that Deeanna Montgomery distributed 6 Busy Bees during a 6-hour period at the Extension Office. The outreach for distribution will end due to lack of response. Carol requested emails regarding members who would benefit from cards from the Sunshine Committee. She will forward the information to someone who will send a card. There will be no Christmas Party this year. Nominations are slow for awards.

PEST: Suzanne reported project visitations have continued on schedule. Recent visitations to Argenta and Park Hill went well. Projects seem to enjoy visits, like hearing they are doing well and appreciate having a sounding board if needed.

Nominations: Suzanne Potts reported a suggestion to continue the current membership of the board into 2021. The suggestion will be presented to the general membership with a request to submit questions via Chat. Nominations will be requested from the floor. A vote will take place during the November General Meeting.

Speakers: Jodie Mahoney shared that today's speaker will be Jennifer Gibson from Good Earth. She will discuss fall colors and fall plants that tend to be underutilized. Speakers for 2021 have not yet been secured. Expectations are for Zoom meetings to continue.

LOA's: Glenda Woods has requested a leave of absence to care for her aging mother. Charles Corey Scott, an ER and Hospice Doctor, requested a leave of absence due to extra demands on his professional time resulting from Covid. Both members are in good standing. There were no objections. Sharon will sign the required documentation and forward to Katie at the extension office.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Jordan, Secretary