

Pulaski County Master Gardeners

Executive Board Meeting

June 21, 2022

Members Present: Cindy Strauss, Randy Forst, Carol Mendel, Pam Gadberry, Sharon Priest, Jan Brandeburg, Pam Abrams, Blanca Hernandez, Nancy Archer, and Deeana Montgomery. Those absent were Sara Jordan and Jill Bloom.

Welcome: President Cindy Strauss called the meeting to order at 10:02.

Minutes: Minutes of the May 17, 2022, executive board meeting were presented by Secretary Deeana Montgomery. Sharon Priest moved that the minutes be accepted, and First Vice President Carol Mendel seconded. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Pam Gadberry presented the treasurer's report. She mentioned that last month there were 102 members who had not paid dues. Plans were discussed to send emails to these members as a reminder. Carol moved that we accept the treasurer's report. Sharon seconded the motion. The motion passed. Cindy inquired about treasurer name changes on our checking account. Pam will follow up.

Standing Committees: Second Vice President Sara Jordan is absent, so there will be no Standing Committee report.

Old Business: Randy reported on changes to the speaker reimbursement policy. Speaker reimbursement of no more than \$100 may be handled through the private group account. We still need to take care of the Master Naturalist fee.

The letter from the board terminating the master gardener project was sent to CARTI. There has been no reply.

New Business: Arkansas Children's Hospital has submitted an amended project proposal. They would like to include two new areas and ACH will cover the expense. Sharon and Carol both praised this project. Carol moved that we approve the request, and Sharon seconded. The motion passed.

Cindy requested that board members email a current description of each board members duties.

We received a proposal from J McLaughlin to donate a percentage of a sponsored day of shopping to our organization or a chosen charity. The board declined to proceed with this.

Reports:

Projects: Carol Mendel voiced that PEST will meet with the River Market Project about the lack of support and members. Randy explained that the office receives credits for horticultural education provided to the public through this project.

Fall training class will be October 5, 2022, through November 16, 2022. The class is in person at State office with speakers on Zoom. There are 64 on list but we will accept 50. We have set the membership cap at 600. Many members have a lifetime or lifetime plus designation and have completed 15 years of service. Lifetime members are not required to work; lifetime plus members are required to work 10 hours.

PEST: Sharon Priest reported that PEST toured projects. Cindy offered that the Demonstration Garden was beautiful. BRI tour showed great organization and planning. This project needs a new overall chairperson and will organize in three teams with different areas.

Jan Brandeburg raised a question about compensation to speakers. Randy suggested that we give each speaker a thank you card with a gift card of \$100 enclosed due to the new policy unless they make a specific request. An exception is made for Janet Carson in October as her fee is \$150.

We also discussed that Paul Nolte deserves recognition for his service.

There are no leave of absence requests.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deeana Montgomery

Secretary