

Pulaski County Master Gardeners

Executive Board Meeting

November 15, 2022

Members Present: Carol Mendel, Sara Jordan, Randy Forst, Sharon Priest, Cindy Strauss, Deeana Montgomery, Pam Gadberry, Arlene Sevilla-White, Nancy Archer, Jan Brandeburg, Blanca Hernandez, and Susan Rose. Pam Abrams was absent.

Welcome: President Cindy Strauss called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. She introduced the new board members, Assistant Treasurer Arlene Sevilla-White and Member-at-Large Susan Rose.

Minutes: Minutes of October 18, 2022, Executive Board and General Meeting were presented by Secretary Deeana Montgomery. Carol Mendel introduced a topic of previous discussion from the minutes concerning budget allowance of either \$300 or \$400 per project for certain expenses. We previously in October voted on \$300. After the discussion Carol Mendel moved that we increase this amount to \$400 per project and have the proposed budget reflect this amount. Jan Brandeburg seconded. The motion passed. Sharon Priest moved that we accept the minutes. Nancy Archer seconded. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Pam Gadberry presented the treasurer's report. Pam reminded the group that projects, committees, and others should be reminded that any expenses over the budget should be requested and approved by the board in advance of any spending.

Sharon Priest moved that we accept the Treasurer's report, and Nancy Archer seconded. The report was approved.

The budget was presented. The proposal for a PCMG scholarship was discussed. There will be an application with a list of requirements for the single scholarship for an individual attending a school in state and majoring in a horticulture related field. Sharon Priest volunteered to head the committee. Following the selection of a winner, the funds will be sent directly to the school.

Arlene Sevilla-White will have her signature listed with the private account at Bank of the Ozarks.

Cindy moved that we accept the proposed budget. Sara seconded. The board voted to approve the budget.

Old Business: Cindy mentioned that we are working on changes previously approved concerning recording the PCMG General Meetings in 2023. The Church will be notified that we are suspending Zoom Meetings and instead request recording of the meetings for later viewing. Notifications and access to recording could be a link on the MG website.

New Business: Carol and Cindy will work on surveying members for interest in leadership positions as committee and project chairs.

The general meeting will hold voting for officers and for Project Awards for Project of the Year and Rookie of the Year. Voting will be by paper ballot at the meeting.

Jan Brandeburg said that PCMG award nominations will be sent to the state. County 76 team of judges will select state winners and present them at the State Master Gardener Conference in Russellville in June.

Reports:

Projects: The War Memorial Project has lost members. Nancy Archer has agreed to chair this project. Carol commented that Nancy has done an excellent job with new class training. Those who will graduate from the fall class will be assigned to projects. Carol is working on a mentor list.

Carol reported that 250 people have not yet paid 2022 dues. Some may be lifetime members.

The Executive Board training retreat for 2023 will be in January at Trio's.

Slate of Officers: Sharon Priest reported that the slate of officers will be voted on today in the general meeting.

Sharon also reported that 10 project reviews had been done this year. That will leave 12 to be done for PEST committee in 2023. Cindy suggested that an additional member be added to the Pest Committee.

Standing Committees: Sara Jordan reported that the Social Committee needs a chair; Sharon Priest volunteered. Continuing Education chair will be Blanca Hernandez. The new Stuff Committee Chair is Linda Ahlen. The Welcome Committee chair is Junie Harris. Head of the Newsletter is Laura Ann Warren.

Cindy clarified that the requirement for new master gardeners for a Busy Bee Award is 60 hours on their assigned garden project.

The Leave of absence request by Carol Nutter was withdrawn. Sustainer status request by Lynn Senn was considered. Carol moved that we accept; Pam Gadberry seconded. The request was approved.

Randy Forst reported that we received a new project proposal. The project would be the Master Naturalist Garden at St Joseph Center of Arkansas in North Little Rock. Master Gardener Ruth Landers has volunteered to be Chair. Mike Lienhart will be co-chair. Three other members are on the project. If approved the project will be presented to the membership in January or February for a vote. Carol commented that we should hear from Ruth in the future and plan a board vote in January. Sharon moved that we consider the project and Blanca seconded. The suggestion passed.

Cindy moved that we adjourn, and Sharon seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deeana Montgomery

Secretary

