

Pulaski County Master Gardeners

Executive Board Meeting

March 21, 2023

Members Present: Carol Mendel, Sara Jordan, Pam Abrams, Cindy Strauss, Deeana Montgomery, Arlene Sevilla-White, Blanca Hernandez, Susan Rose, and Derek Reed were present. Those absent were Pam Gadberry, Nancy Archer, and Jan Brandeburg. Three committee chairs visited the meeting.

Welcome: President Carol Mendel called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. She welcomed the standing committee chairs.

Minutes: The minutes of the February 21, 2023, Executive Board and General Meeting were presented by Secretary Deeana Montgomery. There were no additions or corrections. Pam Abrams moved that the minutes be accepted. Blanca Hernandez seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by the board.

Treasurer's Report: There was no official treasurer's report. Carol mentioned that due to county delays the March 31, 2023, year end report is not finalized. Assistant Treasurer Arlene Sevilla-White reported on dues. Dues have been received from 264 members, and T-shirts have been requested by 284 members.

Carol reported on changes in board and committees. Jan Brandeburg is no longer on the board and a replacement for the Member-At-Large position is needed. She added that the Busy Bee Committee Chair Jacque Ault has resigned from the organization and needs replacement.

Old Business: Carol reported that a list is being prepared of members who did not pay dues in 2022 and failed to report adequate hours on projects. A letter of termination will be sent to those on this list.

New Business: Carol reported that Tuesday, April 11, 2023, has been scheduled for St. James United Methodist workday to thank the church for our meeting facilities. Workers will be requested from the first five projects and the general membership.

Cindy Strauss reported that we have a transfer member from another county. If in good standing from transferring county, as a courtesy the county office will furnish a new badge.

Carol reported on Leave of Absence requests for 2023. Scott Hiers requests leave and is up to date on dues and hours. Cindy moved that we approve request and Susan Rose seconded. The motion passed. Greta Wright requested leave and is up to date on dues. Pam Abrams moved that we approve the request, and Cindy seconded. The motion passed.

Reports: First Vice President Sara Jordan reported no problems from projects. She mentioned that chairs were informed at training that leave requests are required by November 15 of the calendar year and if received later will be treated on a case-by-case basis.

Second Vice President Pam Abrams thanked the committee chairs in attendance at board meeting. She is available for any questions.

Past President Cindy Strauss reported on the Pest Committee. April visits will cover Little Rock Greenhouse, State Hospital, and State Extension Office.

Susan Rose reported on upcoming speakers.

Blanca Hernandez reported on Continuing Education. She has arranged two advanced training classes. The board discussed a possible charge for the classes of \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. This could cover food and beverages, door prizes and expenses. Blanca will work on written guidelines for educational events.

Nancy Archer sent a report that a fall training class of 25 has been scheduled. Mentoring and Board vetting will be arranged.

Derek Reed discussed arrangements for advanced training this year. He also requested that board members consider whether any new projects should be allowed this year. One project at St Joseph Heritage Center has been proposed previously and the chairperson may present proposal in future.

Blanca moved to adjourn the meeting and Susan seconded. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deeana Montgomery

Board Secretary