

Pulaski County Master Gardeners

Executive Board Meeting

June 20, 2023

Members Present: The board members present were Carol Mendel, Sara Jordan, Pam Abrams, Cindy Strauss, Pam Gadberry, Arlene Sevilla-White, Nancy Archer, Blanca Hernandez, Susan Rose and Melody Parsley, with Derek joining later due to helping with Tee Shirt set up.

Welcome: Carol Mendel welcomed all to the June board meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes: Minutes of the May 16, 2023, Board and General Meetings were presented by Past President Cindy Strauss filling in for Secretary Deeana Montgomery. Melody Parsley moved that we accept the minutes, and Pam Gadberry seconded. The minutes were approved with all in favor.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Pam Gadberry presented the report. She outlined the earnings including the greenhouse project sales and that we need to look at adjusting the percent of Greenhouse sales transfer to the Greenhouse trust. She reviewed moneys paid to projects for reimbursement.

Assistant Treasurer Arlene Sevilla-White presented numbers of MG members that have not paid dues. Arlene noted that Derek needs to send letters to members that have not paid. She suggested that in the September board meeting we may need to discuss raising the late dues amount.

Arlene Sevilla-White moved that the treasurer reports be accepted, and Melody Parsley seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.

Old Business: There will be a meeting of the Busy Bee Committee on July 19 to discuss how to streamline the Busy Bee program. Carol mentioned that anyone from the board interested could attend.

New Business:

Curran Hall project spent \$38.40 more than their allotted \$400 annual budget. During discussion Carol told the board that Carolyn Newbern on the project was given a check for the total \$438.40 expenditure from the Curran Hall Host. Carolyn Newbern tore up the check and wanted PCMG to pay the entire amount. Board member Cindy Strauss noted this should be paid by the host, not PCMG as per our agreement with the host. There was discussion that we should just approve it. The motion was made by Pam Gadberry that we pay the overage and seconded by Blanca Hernandez. The vote was 5 board members in favor and two opposed.

At Large member Melody Parsley mentioned that we need to do better at communicating information to the entire PCMG membership. What information should the Magnolia Chronicle relay? A group consisting of Melody Parsley, Susan Rose, Sara Jordan, Carol Mendel, Pam Abrams and Derek would meet to come up with ideas and make recommendations for a fall meeting.

Reports:

Projects: Sara Jordan reported that the projects are doing well and that she has emailed chairs to let them know status of unpaid dues.

Committees:

Pam Abrams noted that the the social committee will have refreshments after the general meeting for members to pick up their free tee shirts.

Cindy Strauss reported on the Pest Committee visits to Sherwood Senior Center, Argenta and Park Hill Water Works. All three projects look great. Visits for July will be Scholar's Garden and Witt Stephens, August visits to Home for Healing and War Memorial with September rounding out with a visit to Wildwood.

Member-At-Large reports: Susan Rose noted that today's speaker is Blanca Hernandez and that the October speaker would be Anthony Bowden, who is an ornamental specialist.

Nancy Archer talked about an interview process for people applying to take the fall MG class. A questionnaire has been compiled with a rating system. There will be a class limit of 25 for the fall. Nancy suggested we look at the mentor program and address training of mentors.

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Report from Derek: Derek talked about request for new projects are many and that we really don't anticipate adding any new projects in the near future. He announced that Blanca will be the Staff Chair at the Pulaski County Extension office as of July 1.

Nancy Archer moved that the meeting be adjourned; Susan Rose seconded. The motion passed with all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Strauss for Deena Montgomery