

Pulaski County Master Gardener General Meeting

September 19, 2023

Welcome: President Carol Mendel welcomed members to the 35th year of the Master Gardener program in Arkansas. The meeting was called to order by Carol at 11:30 a.m.

Speaker: Member-at-Large Susan Rose introduced the speaker, Bruce McMath. The subject of his talk was "Light Pollution: An Assault on Nature at Night". Mr. McMath focused on ways humans have changed our environment with light and the impact on health and wildlife.

Announcements: President Mendel emphasized that members must complete the required hours for membership and pay annual dues. Regular members are required to serve 20 hours and report them by the December 15th deadline. Dues of \$20 are due by May 1st each year. Any leave of absence must be requested by the November meeting.

Board activities during the summer have included a search for chair and members of the Busy Bee Committee. Our Magnolia Chronicle Newsletter is searching for an editor and co-editor to serve as chair and co-chair of the committee. The newsletter will be working on a new format for 2024. Any members willing to volunteer for these two committees should contact the president.

A new class of Pulaski County Master Gardener trainees will begin October 11, 2023. Over the summer the board vetted applicants, and 28 people were selected for the new class. Training will last until November 15, 2023.

The PEST committee visited the projects at War Memorial, Home for Healing, and Wildwood.

Derek's Remarks: Derek reminded members to sign up for the October 11, 2023, Master Gardener 35th Birthday Party held at St. James United Methodist Church. He mentioned that he was teaching elementary students about trees and other gardening subjects.

Door Prizes: Door prizes were distributed to members present at the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deeana Montgomery

Board Secretary