

**Pulaski County Master Gardeners Board Meeting
November 19, 2019**

Members Present: Pam Gadberry, Suzanne Potts, Randy Forst, Ann Schweitzer, Michele Wasson, Cindy Strauss, Sharon Priest, Susan Stewart, and Joellen Beard.

Guests: Kay Allen and Mary Dandurand from War Memorial project, John Eckart and Mark Webre from Little Rock Parks and Recreation, Kathleen Reynolds and Deana Montgomery Busy Bee Committee.

President Suzanne Potts called the meeting to order at 10:02.

The minutes from the October Board and General Meetings were approved.

Pam Gadberry presented both bank statements. They were approved

Old Business:

Little Rock MG Greenhouse: Ann Schweitzer reported that she has had no information from Jody Jackson, chair of the Greenhouse. She also reported that we may not be losing the LR Greenhouse and the Mabelvale school greenhouse is not available to us. Ann suggested we just do minimal repairs to the Little Rock Greenhouse. The issue was tabled until we get more information.

War Memorial Project: Sharon introduced John Eckart and Mark Webre from Little Rock Parks and Recreation. They expressed their appreciation to MGs for working in the past and offered better communication and commitment not to overwater or blow grass into the beds. Joellen made a motion the board reverse an earlier vote to terminate the project and to reinstate it, Ann seconded the motion, all were in favor. The project is reinstated.

Walter Jennings Memorial: Allen sent word that the Cammack project did not want a table and the project members are donating an arbor in Walter's memory at Cammack. Randy suggested the board might put a bench at the Demonstration Garden in his memory. This was tabled until more information/ideas are available.

New Business:

Project Report: Sharon reported the Chair and Co-Chair training after the October meeting went well. She also reported 21 new class members were assigned projects.

New member Debbie Denton was assigned Argenta but after no response from either the chair or co-chair of that project Sharon reassigned Debbie to the Old Mill project. A new Online Class begins in January.

Travel: Ten Master Gardeners signed up for the Chris Olsen event on November 16th. The workshop afterwards was not held because the minimum signup was not met. Cherith Beck and Susan Reasoner are rotating off as Co-Chairs. Jo Anne Jennings and Sharon Holman will take over.

Social Committee: New member reception is after today's meeting. The last event of the year is the Holiday Luncheon at the Clinton Presidential Library on December 6th. Deadline to make reservations is November 25th. Pat Luzzi and Margo Rowe are rotating off as Co-chairs. Karen Mauermann and Betty Raley will take over in 2020.

Sunshine Committee: Shirley Acchione wants to step down as Chair. Suzanne said someone volunteered at the Chair/Co-chair training but she could not remember who. She will announce in the general meeting for the person to contact her again.

Continuing Education Committee: Melody Parsley will take over as chair and Joellen Beard will Co-chair.

Training Committee: 21 trainees completed the training. A new online training begins in January. A meeting of the online trainees has been scheduled for February 22 at the County Extension Office.

Busy Bee Committee: Kathleen Reynolds presented extensive reports for both 2018 and 2019 on the Busy Bees. The reports accounted for initial purchase of the bees and accounting of the awarded ones and the numbers currently in inventory. It was decided that when a MG earns a gold bee, they may either keep their pewter bees or turn them in. Deeana Montgomery will take over as Chair starting 2020.

PEST Committee: The committee visited the Horticulture Hotline on November 12th. Everything is great with the project. Randy reported they answered 3522 calls this year. Their biggest problem is getting MG to answer the phone. Joellen suggested in addition to Horticulture Hotline the River Market project be suggested to members seeking a project while on medical restriction.

St James Workday: Catherine Chalmont was unable to supervise the workday so Pam Gadberry stepped in to help. Pam reported there were 22 volunteers and in two hours they completed the work.

Awards: Carol Mendel reported there was only one nominee for the Project of The Year, the Old Mill, so that project wins the award. There were two nominations for Friend of Master Gardener so a vote in the general membership will decide. The nominees were Burt Turner – Old Mill and Marilyn Mason from Little Rock Greenhouse by HAM.

Budget Presentation: Pam reported the only change that has been made to the budget is \$200 for the Sunshine Committee. She has looked into new computers and they will run about \$450.00. Joellen motioned we approve the budget and Carol seconded. All were in favor, budget approved.

Randy presented three requests for Leave of Absence – Joy Campbell, Susan Fitzsimmons, and Rita Johnson. All were in favor of granting the Leave of Absence.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Strauss for Carol Young