

Pulaski County Master Gardener
Executive Board Meeting via Zoom
September 21, 2021

Members Present: Sharon Priest, Cindy Strauss, Carol Mendel, Susanne Potts, Sara Jordan, Pam Gadberry, Susan Stewart, Deeanna Montgomery, Jodie Mahony, Michele Wasson, Ann Schweitzer and Randy Forst.

Welcome: President Sharon Priest called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Minutes: Minutes for the May and June Board and General meetings were presented by Secretary Sara Jordan. Carol Mendel made a motion to approve, seconded by Michele Wasson. The minutes were approved.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer Pam Gadberry presented both bank statements. As the budget for 2022 will be presented in October and voted for in November, Pam requested to be notified if budgeted items need adjustments. Suzanne Potts made a motion to approve the report, seconded by Cindy Strauss. The report was approved.

Reports:

Projects: Cindy Strauss reported there are 50 applicants for the fall Master Gardener class. She will contact project chairs to determine new member needs.

Some projects have expressed difficulty completing necessary work due to lack of attendance. After a short discussion, Cindy made a motion to return project work hours for 2022 to pre-Covid requirements of 20 hours for members and 40 hours for new members. Carol Mendel seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Standing Committee's: Carol Mendel shared that due to uncertainty under Covid restrictions, all social activities until January 2022 will be cancelled.

October, November and December meetings will continue to be held via Zoom. How to adapt the Awards Ceremony normally held in November was discussed. Members will be reminded during the General Meeting by Sharon Priest to turn in nominations. Nomination forms have already been Emailed to the general membership.

Holiday entertainment for a December Zoom meeting was discussed. Carol will contact the Social Committee chairs to determine the possibility of entertainment.

PEST: Suzanne Potts reported committee members visited the Pinnacle and Carti projects during the past month. Both projects are doing well. The state will be building a new visitor center for the Pinnacle area. Neither a location nor construction timeline has been formally

announced. The possibility of an additional new Pinnacle Master Gardener project will be decided later.

Speakers: Jodie Mahony reported General Meeting speakers for September and October.

September – Lauren Marshall from Arkansas Game and Fish. Her topic will be Bird Migration.

October – Leslie Patrick from Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission. Her topic will be Tall Grass Prairie Restoration in Arkansas.

Other Business:

Ann Schweitzer shared the status of Mabelvale Middle School Greenhouse, a potential community outreach project.

Randy reported that Master Gardener online reporting software is being updated. It should be ready for 2022 reporting.

Leave Of Absence: Applications for Leave of Absence for Toni Young and Kathie Burris were presented and approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Jordan

Secretary