

## **Pulaski County Master Gardeners**

### **Executive Board Meeting**

**November 19, 2024**

**Highlights:** The 2025 budget will be discussed and approved at the January 2025 board meeting. Ten members who have not paid dues by the deadline will be removed from membership. New class members are being assigned to projects. Busy Bee Awards will be given to 90 members. PCMG Stuff can now be ordered. LOAs are approved for Megan Kinley and Doug Hurst.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President, Sara Jordan. Members present were Sara Jordan, Michele Wasson, Pam Abrams, Deeana Montgomery, Andy Kessel, Susan Rose, Ann Griffin, Denise Devlin, Melody Parsley, and Derek Reed. Sara praised the accomplishments of the board this year in streamlining the organization.

**Minutes:** The minutes were presented by Secretary Deeana Montgomery. Ann moved that the board approve the minutes, and Andy seconded the motion. The board voted and the motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Andy Kessel presented the monthly budget report; he highlighted income sources such as the greenhouse sales and expenses such as class training. There was also a discussion of the 2025 budget, and Andy recommended that the vote on the budget be delayed until January 2025. Some expenses will be greenhouse repairs, orientation meetings and possible horticultural grants.

Derek reported calendars for 2025 have been delayed at the state level. We will have training books left over for the next training class. In addition, approximately 40 were sold to members. Melody moved to accept the report, and Michele seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of the board. Andy also gave an Assistant Treasurer update that today is the deadline for removal from membership for 10 members who have not paid dues.

**Reports: Projects:** First Vice President Pam Abrams is in the process of assigning new members to projects. Derek updated the board regarding progress at the Pathfinder Greenhouse Project. A meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2024, to discuss sponsorship, repairs and purchases of new tabletops.

**Standing Committees:** Second Vice President Michele Wasson presented a report on the various committees. The Busy Bee Committee reported that 90 members qualify for a Busy Bee Award for project work hours for 2024. The Continuing Education Committee held a successful basic gardening class on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This gardening series will continue beginning in February 2025. The annual holiday meeting/event will be held December 4, 2024, at Chenal Country Club. The cost is \$35, and the last day to register is November 29, 2024. All past presidents will be recognized with a rose and complimentary meal. The Facebook/Photography Committee is already at work. The Magnolia Chronicle needs a Chair. Programs has been removed as a committee and instead will become part of an At-Large

Board assignment. The Record Keeping Committee reported that December 15<sup>th</sup> is the final date to enter hours. Sixteen members of the class of 2023 have not fulfilled work requirements thus far. Also, there are two regular members on probation and twelve on Leave of Absence. The Stuff Committee reported that the online store is working; the new class will order a free T-shirt. The board may need to set specific times to order as bulk production is necessary per the online store, Trivia Marketing. Ribbons for board badges will be ready in December. The Training/Mentoring Committee has 47 people with 9 additional online students. These new members will be required to work 5 hours on the County Extension phone line. The Website/Directory Committee reported that the new printed directory will be available in 2025. Any updates to information should be furnished to the website at <http://www.pcmg.update@gmail.com>

**At-Large:** Ann Griffin reported on the fall training class. She reported a disconnect between the printed book and the material presented by speakers. The printed book is essentially a reference book but does not align with the class presentations. Susan Rose and Ann Griffin are working on topics and speakers for programs for 2025.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** Discussion was held regarding the PCMG commitment to St. James Methodist Church for two workdays per year on the church grounds. The suggestion was made for a collaboration between St. James and PCMG Board Member-At-Large position to promote continuity and participation. This issue will be considered in business 2025.

**Change of Status Requests:** The following requests were made for Leave of Absence Status:

New member of the 2023 class, Megan Kinley, requested leave for 2024 as she has not completed hours due to family issues.

Doug Hurst requested leave for 2024 as he has completed most of his hours, but family illness has prevented completion of his obligation. Pam moved that we approve the Leave of absence requests, and Andy seconded the motion. The motion carried by vote of the board.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Deeana Montgomery

Board Secretary