

## Pulaski County Master Gardeners

### Executive Board Meeting

April 16, 2024

**Call To Order:** The executive board meeting was called to order by President Sara Jordan at 10:00 a.m. Members present were Sara Jordan, Derek Reed, Carol Mendel, Pam Abrams, Michele Wasson, Andy Kessel, Arlene Sevilla-White, Melody Parsley, Susan Rose, Ann Griffin, Denise Devlin, and Deean Montgomery.

PCMG member Laura Ann Warren presented a proposal to have River City Print and Imaging handle the PCMG STUFF items. The company would furnish, print, and store all our items. Items would be ordered on PCMG website and shipped directly to the member. After much discussion about procedure and cost, Carol Mendel moved that Laura Ann would meet with a committee of board members, visit River City and view items, and submit a proposal to the board at the May meeting. Ann seconded the motion. The vote passed and the motion carries. The committee consists of Derek, Andy, and Melody along with Rachel Kelley.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the March meeting were presented by Board Secretary, Deean Montgomery. Pam moved that the minutes be approved as presented, and Michele seconded. The report was approved by vote of the board members.

**Treasurer's Report:** The financial report was presented by Board Treasurer, Andy Kessel. An important item of note was the sale of the new Master Gardener training book.

**Assistant Treasurer's Report:** The assistant treasurer's report on dues was presented by Board Assistant Treasurer Arlene Sevilla-White. Approximately 76 % of regular master gardener members have paid annual dues. Dues are due by April 30. Derek commented that two members have agreed to probation for not completing hours of work. There are ten members with uncertain status. Sara noted that members on leave of absence must still pay annual dues. She suggested revising our leave of absence letter to members and posting the information and form on the website. Derek will revise the letter, and Andy will post the form.

**Reports-Projects:** First Vice President Pam Abrams reported that projects are functioning well. She will update the lists of projects and include new projects and members.

**Standing Committees:** Second Vice President Michele Wasson presented a report. A continuing education seminar on April 18, 2024, has 33 participants registered currently. Derek plans to video the seminar.

**PEST:** Chair Carol Mendel reported that the PEST Committee would visit two North Little Rock projects on May 14, 2024, at St. Joseph Farmstead and Old Mill Park. All board members are encouraged to attend.

**At Large:** At Large Board member, Denise Devlin, reported that thirteen PCMG members successfully completed the spring workday at St. James United Methodist Church by working in flower beds and planting flowers. She suggested that we assign specific projects to handle specific workdays.

**Unfinished Business:** Sara noted that previous discussion was held concerning a clear, published timetable of important dates and deadlines. She has gathered input from board members.

**New Business:** Derek presented Leave of Absence requests by two members. Rita Watson requested leave due to health reasons. Pam moved that we allow leave, and Carol seconded. The motion passed by vote of the board. Deborah Germany requested leave due to health issues. Ann moved that we approve the request, and Michele seconded. The motion was approved by vote of the board.

Derek suggested that we delay the agenda item concerning Pathfinders Greenhouse. The project is facing problems with no current chair and a lack of members. They need upgrades or replacement of materials. Despite these issues, the project made \$4000 at the plant sale with another sale pending. The grant for maintenance has ended. Carol suggested that we find a way to support the project.

Carol moved that we adjourn the board meeting, and Pam Abrams seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. by vote of the board.

Respectfully Submitted,

Deeana Montgomery

Board Secretary