

St Charles County Master Gardener

Monthly Meeting Minutes (Final)

Thursday, 22 April 2021

If you have any questions, comments, or corrections before these minutes are approved please contact your MG Secretary Rebekah Davis at rdbirds19@yahoo.com

Call to Order: Joe Walker called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

Attendance: 57

Speaker: Carol Gravens- Topic: "PLANTS THAT CHANGED THE COURSE OF HISTORY"

Secretary's Report: Rebekah Davis- Monthly meeting minutes for Thursday, 25 March 2021 were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Rebecca Poon- The financial report for end of March 2021 was provided. Net monthly change and cash in bank was identified. Revenue and Expense totals with Net Income for 2021 were shown.

MU Horticulturalist: Justin Keay and Alex Reichert (County Engagement Specialist in Community Economic Development)-
Justin Keay thanked the group for all of the dedication and volunteer work that has been accomplished during these difficult times.

COVID-19 property update: Alex Reichert reported on the Extension's reopening plan. Outdoor number restrictions and mask requirements are still in place. The office is planned to reopen with restrictions beginning 17 May.

Committee Reports-

Education: Jan Carron-

Jan Carron reported on the 13 April Education Committee meeting. Starting in May they will begin meeting bi-monthly until October. The Education Committee is looking for a volunteer(s) to attend Steering Committee meetings as representatives now that this committee is a voting member. Contact Jan Carron if interested.

Digital Media Subcommittee: Zack Blair-

Zack Blair reported on the MG YouTube channel: Anyone interested in learning, has ideas, and/or is interested in producing content for the channel are encouraged to contact Zack. The QR project in the Demonstration Gardens are underway! Each garden will have a sign with a scan-able QR code that will provide information on each garden.

Plant Sale: Marsha Brown and Libby Wilson-

Marsha Brown provided an update on the Spring Plant Sale: The public announcement and order form has been released, volunteers are in place and organized to begin assisting with pick-ups.

Greenhouse: Laura Steimel and Nancy Torke-

Laura Steimel reported that the greenhouse watering crews will be wrapping up in the next week or two. Volunteers will need to watch their emails for the latest updates as the season draws to a close.

Demo Gardens: Cindy Platzer-

Joe Walker reported that all Demo Gardens will be looking for help soon, a list of the Leads with their contacts were provided in the Monday Newsletter. Cindy Platzer can also be contacted for those looking to volunteer wherever there is need. Cindy added that Wednesday and Saturday Demo Garden work sessions are starting up again beginning Wednesday, 5 May. Remember that any work done in the individual gardens must occur under the guidance of the Demo Garden Leads!

Communication: Mary Medina-

Joe Walker reported on the following-

Monday Newsletters: Mary Medina reported that only approximately 60% of the membership are opening our newsletters. If you aren't receiving a newsletter every Monday morning (check the spam folder) please contact Mary Medina for assistance.

Website: Mary Carey-

Joe Walker reported that Mary Carey is still looking for volunteers to help with the website and **Facebook** page. Training is provided and counted towards your MG volunteer hours.

Membership: Waneta Parmenter and Bonnie Winkler-

Joe Walker provided a report on current membership committee activities including new trainees and the formation of an Ad-Hoc MG Welcoming Committee for new Interns. The membership database and volunteer hour reporting is behind schedule and still unavailable so MG's need to continue writing their hours down at home. Keep an eye out for new information and helpful reporting tips from Waneta in the upcoming Monday Newsletters.

Continuing and Advanced Training (CE and AT): Bonnie Winkler-

No report. Bonnie Winkler is on the new Ad-Hoc Welcoming Committee helping with the transition process.

Speakers Bureau: Valerie Mertz-

May 27 speaker Dr. Keith Duncan- "Seeing the Unseen: X-ray Imaging in Plant Biology Above and Below the Soil Line".

June 24 speaker Kelly McGowan- The Horticulture Program Coordinator for the Master Gardeners of Springfield Mo will be presenting on the educational component of their MG program.

We will be having a group fieldtrip to Faust Park in August to tour the Thornhill grounds starting at 5:00-6:30 PM followed by a short bussiness meeting.

Hort Line: Patti Kolek-

HL will still be on a call-in basis in May. Calls/emails are sporadic.

Community Outreach Projects

LSL Farmers Market (the Meadows): Mary Medina-

Mary Medina reported that Leslie Limberg, Sharon Hedges and Cathy Ditson braved the cold rainy Saturday to help with 'Plant a Seed' event at the LSL Market. About 20 kids planted Sugar Baby Watermelons and learned about seeds.

Saint Charles Farmers market: Patti Kolek-

MG will have a table at the opening of the St Charles farmers market on May 22 and continue attending once a month. There will be a planned kids activity for each day. The location is 520 North Riverside Arts Foundry Parking Lot. Contact Patti Kolek if interested in volunteering.

Boys and Girls Club – O'Fallon: Joe Walker-

June 17 – August 5 (except week of July 4) 9:00 AM till 10:00 AM. Donated compost has been delivered to prepare their garden beds. Ramping up program details with volunteers (more volunteers will be accepted), contact Joe Walker if interested in participating.

Missouri Master Gardeners Association (MOMGA): Joe Walker-

Monthly Newsletter came out Mid-April. No word on new database (see under Membership). If you didn't get the MOMGA Newsletter, you can go to the MOMGA website (link on our Monday newsletter) to view it.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Joe Walker wanted to thank Val Mertz who has offered to provide assistance to any Master Gardener who wants to try creating a 3-minute video on a gardening topic for our YouTube channel. See our Newsletter for more information.

The Pantry Garden Diary is written by Del Moeller and will be published in our Monday Morning Newsletter each month. It details the work and experiments going on in the Pantry Demonstration Garden along with tips and tricks on vegetable gardening. Don't miss it!

Good of the Order:

Thank you to this month's facilitators: Zoom Co-hosts Jan Carron and Beka Davis

Meeting was adjourned at 8:43 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Rebekah Davis