

St. Charles County Master Gardeners

Steering Committee Minutes

March 8, 2024

Attendees: Joe Walker, Laura Steimel, Rebecca Poon, Catherine Ebone, Cindy Platzer, Patti Kolek, Marsha Brown, Donna Lindsey, Waneta Parmenter and Sydney Turner.

Call to Order: Joe Walker called the meeting to order at 9:09 am.

Quorum and Attendance: Catherine Ebone verified quorum and attendance.

Secretary's Report: Catherine Ebone—Steering committee minutes for February 8, 2024, were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Rebecca Poon—MONGA confirmed the receipt of annual dues. The inclusion of actual financial numbers in the secretary's report and archive website was discussed. It was decided to include the treasurer's report in the Monday Morning News prior to the general meeting and include financial data in the secretary's report.

The Amazon account has been cancelled and the Credit card device has been reactivated in anticipation of the Cool Season Plant Sale.

A secondary person needs to sign off on credit card purchases.

Total Operating Funds at the beginning of the period were \$17,519. Activity for the month was (\$1,882) and the ending balance was \$15,638. These figures do not include the \$5,022 in savings. A motion was made and approved to accept the report as presented.

Extension: Deana Dothage—The Extension card signing project for soldiers serving overseas is still ongoing.

The Steering Committee has gotten a quote for insuring the greenhouse.

The Steering Committee decided not to insure the greenhouse.

501 c 3: Marsha Brown—The audit is scheduled next week. The report will be available next month.

Membership: Sydney Turner, Waneta Parmenter, Bonnie Winkler—Sydney is stepping down from the committee as of April 1. Waneta is stepping down at the end of the year. Recommendations for changes to the reporting of volunteer hours are being developed.

CE and AT: Bonnie Winkler—Bonnie is looking to back off on some of the duties of this committee. Additional support is being sought.

Education: Patti Kolek—The last “In the Garden” class is March 23.

Plant Sale: Marsha Brown, Catherine Ebone—Seeding parties are underway. We are getting ready for the Cool Season sale. The greenhouse is full.

Greenhouse: Laura Steimel, Nancy Torke—The greenhouse is good on propane and open for business.

Hoophouse: Donna Lindsey—The hoophouse is filling up.

Communication: Mary Medina has stepped down. Melanie Elick and Jeanine Ferguson have agreed to take over this project. The Steering Committee secretary (currently Catherine Ebone) has agreed to act as liaison between the committee and the Steering Committee.

Demo Gardens: Cindy Platzer—The quarterly leads meeting will be held on March 23. Policy and procedures for the demo gardens are being redone. The rose garden will be dropped from the garden list.

Hortline: Patti Kolek—The Hortline Training class has been moved to May. In-office presence for the Hortline will begin March 18.

Farmers Markets: Patti Kolek—Patti stated she had not heard back from the St.Charles Farmers Market. The Spring Fling will be held in Weldon Springs on the 3rd Saturday in May.

Upcoming Speakers: Val Mertz

March 28—John Miller will talk about Purple Martins.

April 26—Jenny Fagan, a longtime member of the Webster Groves Herb Society, will talk on how to grow and use her favorite herbs.

T-shirts: Sydney Turner—Sydney reported that the T-shirt supplier has not gotten back to her.

New Business: The idea of creating a fun committee to plan some social activities.

Joe reported that Debbi Kelly is moving to Boone County.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47.

Respectively submitted,

Catherine Ebone