

# St Charles County Master Gardener

## Steering Committee Meeting Minutes (FINAL)

8 July 2022

Attendees: Laura Steimel, Catherine Ebone, Rebecca Poon, Jan Carron, Cindy Platzer, Joe Walker, Marsha Brown, Mary Medina, Patti Kolek, Debi Kelly, Eli Isele Deanne Dothage and Sydney Turner

Call to Order: Joe Walker called the meeting to order at 9:11am

Secretary's Report: Catherine Ebone

Approval of Steering Committee meeting minutes for 10 June 2022 was delayed due to a distribution issue. Catherine confirmed quorum.

Treasurer's Report: Rebecca Poon-

The financial report for the end of June 2022 was provided. Net monthly change and cash in bank was listed. Revenue and Expense totals with net income for June 2022 were shown.

MU Horticulturalist Specialist: Eli Isele

The new hort specialist, Eli Isle, introduced himself.

Deana Dothage, the new CES, also introduced herself.

Ways to increase attendance at the fall MG conference Sept.16-18 were discussed.

Online MG training class will begin Aug. 14. The online class will be promoted on our website. Ways to increase involvement in the demonstration gardens by MG trainees were discussed.

Extension Council: Patti Kolek

Extension Council has requested help from MGs to process soil samples. Mary Medina will coordinate with Brenda. Debi Kelly clarified that results should go back to the office that submits the sample request.

The Council also requested help for staffing a table at the county fair. There is a sign-up sheet. Several people have already volunteered.

Extension Council Open House has been rescheduled to September or October. Neighbors, businesses, donors and the public will be invited. . MG role in open house may include a table and possible tours of the gardens.

Expanded electrical service for outside outlets and machine shed is being discussed. Kevin Menard is available for questions on this matter. Updated maps of the grounds were suggested.

Marsha was asked to coordinate this through the safety committee.

### **Committee Reports-**

Membership: Waneta Parmenter, Bonnie Winkeler

Pins and badges were presented at the June General Membership meeting. Remainder of pins will be distributed at upcoming meetings. Every chapter decides what qualifies for advanced training.

CE & AT: Bonnie Winkeler-

A new AT list has been generated and passed along to Mary Medina.

Plant Sale: Marsha Brown, Catherine Ebone

Marsha has given Rebecca Poon all the numbers for budget. Numbers were only up about \$300. A general meeting in August or September will be held. The plant sale has 7 bales of pro mix left over. Generally the plant sale likes to have 4-5 bales left over to accommodate possible delays in shipments. MGs will probably not be allowed to buy supplies from the greenhouse

Greenhouse: Laura Steimel, Nancy Torke-

The Steering Committee decided to hold off on approving the hard plastic (lexan) for the greenhouse. The replacement plastic was approved last month. The committee requested more information on new fans to help circulate air more effectively. The SC asked for details on the whole plan for the greenhouse—plastic, lexan and fans. The plastics would come out of the capitalization budget with the fans coming out of the operating funds

Communication: Mary Medina, Mary Carey-

The zoom license has been renewed. It is still under Jan Carron's email. Jan will no longer be coordinating Zoom. Website renewal will be due in January. If you send Roger information he will be put it up on the website. It was noted that the Website doesn't render well on mobile devices. A new platform may be needed. Debi Kelly will ask her son who is a tech guru.

Demo Gardens: Cindy Platzer, Marsha Brown-

Cindy welcomed the Master Naturalists who are putting up a greenhouse on the property. MGs and MNs may need to communicate more effectively and a meeting may be needed to coordinate efforts. Plant swap at the last MG general meeting went well

Speakers: Val Mertz-

July 28: Todd Higgins will be back to talk about Cover Crops in Gardens. 6:30 pm

August 25: Diane Brickmont of Wild Birds Unlimited will speak on bluebirds 6:30 pm

September 22: Field Trip to Robin Pilla's Progress South's outdoor classroom. 5:30 pm

October 27: Bob Richardson "The Bug Guy" He is an Entomologist and national award winning photographer of bugs in the garden. 6:30 pm

Hort Line: Patti Kolek

Hort Line is doing very well. Business cards have been redone to include website.

Education: Patti Kolek

Patti is working with Jan on how the education committee will be organized and its one-year objectives. Discussions are continuing. At this point having the education chair also taking the lead on the dig-In has been determined to be not sustainable. Activities which pre-dated the education committee may be brought under the education committee for better coordination of efforts.

Old Business:

501(c)(3) committee sent out bylaws and policies for review. The bylaws and procedures will be put in the Monday Morning news to allow for a 30 day review prior to a general membership vote.

St. Charles Historic Garden—Terri Scheer

It is just too hot for much activity. Some weeding and lots of watering are happening.

Farmers markets are going well. A motion was made and approved to spend up to \$200 for a new canopy for the Farmers markets

Boys and Girls Club Summer program underway.

New Business

Several new sources were suggested for MG T-shirts. Jan Carron and Mary Medina will contact various companies for info on T-shirts. Mary has the logo.

Next meeting Aug. 12, 2022

Meeting was adjourned at 11:16 am

Respectfully submitted,  
Catherine Ebone