



WASHINGTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
Minutes
October 6, 2020

Present: 88

Quorum: Yes

For the health and safety of all members, the October meeting of the WCMG membership was held virtually. Colin Massey served as host.

Call to Order. President Kathryn Birkhead called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm and recognized our own **Garden Explorers** team for receiving the Excellence in Education Award at this year's state conference.

Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes. Motion and second received to approve as presented the minutes from last month's Annual Meeting. Motion carried.

Approval of the September minutes. Motion and second received to approve the September minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of August Treasurer's Report. Motion and second received to approve the August Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- Endowment Committee. Dolores Stamps, Endowment Committee Chair, reported on a new effort for growing our endowment – a \$5,000 Match Challenge with a December 15 deadline for donating. Donations may be made by check mailed to the Extension Office.
- New Class & Mentoring Committee. Colin shared that we have 28 trainees for this fall's online class, some of whom are in attendance tonight. He thanked the committee members helping with interviews and getting everyone involved and ready to get started. Finally, he called out the need for more mentors next year and in the future.
- Mentoring. Birkhead expanded on need for mentors for the class starting in January and also the need for a Mentoring Committee Chair. She shared that we will also be hosting some "meet and greets" at some of the project sites around the county for Mentors and Trainees. These activities are limited to mentors and trainees only at this time since, due to COVID, we still must meet in small groups for safety reasons.

Unfinished business:

- Birkhead reminded everyone of the importance of recording hours and of the early deadline for Trainees (November 1) vs. active members (December 15). Massey added a reminder about the importance of this and added that last year we recorded a value of between \$130,000 and \$140,000 in the value of our volunteer hours. Jim Sposato announced that he will be donating \$1 for every hour over 200 hours that individual members earn this year.

New business:

- Next year is WCMG 30th anniversary. Birkhead invited members to let her know if they're interested in serving on an ad hoc committee to plan ways for us to celebrate during the year.

Announcements:

- 2021 MG Calendars available. Cost is only \$1.00. Order from Patsy Louk. Five WCMG members have pictures included in this statewide calendar.
- Photo of the month winners: Kitty Sanders (1st), Steve Lisle (2nd), and Carol Sue Wooten (3rd). This month's theme: Critters in the Garden. Deadline for submissions is October 15.
- MGs in the News: Colin Massey (talented videographer) and Jayne Laster (talented root digger).
- The 2020 Master Gardener Appreciation Day will be held online on October 13. The event is free, but participants must register in advance.
- There will be a workday Compost site at the Extension Office on October 15 beginning at 9:00am.
- Chris Bell reminded everyone that their annual \$20 dues for 2021 are now due. Send to Extension office, Attention Chris Bell. Massey confirmed that this does not include Trainees since this is covered for the first year by their course fee.
- Susan Young announced she is in need of pictures of "Master Gardeners at work" at the various sites for a brochure she's creating. The brochure will be used in fundraising for the 2022 state conference that we're hosting here in Washington County.

Adjournment of business meeting

There being no further business to come before the group and with a motion to adjourn, the business meeting ended at 6:52pm.

Tonight's Program: Jane Maginot, an extension agent in Water Quality with the U of A Cooperative Extension Service, sharing her program called "Know the Flow" about urban water issues and low impact development (LID) in residential landscapes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ruthanne Hill
Secretary