

**Washington County Master Gardeners
Minutes
February 4, 2020**

Call to order. President Kathryn Birkhead called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and recognized Jan Lefler and the Workbook Committee for their hard work getting the new pages of the workbook completed to hand out at this meeting. Jan thanked her hard-working committee and announced that they're aware of a few mistakes in the book and revisions will be posted in the newsletter throughout the year and invited members to watch for those and make corrections in their workbooks.

Announced Renee Baldwin as the new Historian.

Approval of January minutes. It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of December treasurer's report. It was moved and seconded the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Unfinished business. Kathryn announced that a few members had been missed in our 2019 Awards program in January. Watering Can pins were presented to Geri Alvis, Chris Bell, Patsy Louk, and Jim Sposato. The *Yes, I Can Rookie* award was presented to Jim McGinty who was not able to attend the January meeting.

New Business

New Reimbursement policy. To help the Treasurers properly keep track of our funds, the following changes were announced:

- "Clean" receipts are required for reimbursement. This is defined as receipts with only Master Gardener items on the receipt, no personal items.
- Requests for reimbursement must be submitted within 90 days of the purchase and within the current fiscal year (calendar year) and current budget.
- Requests must be submitted by December 1, unless the purchase was made in December.

Requests for reimbursement should be submitted with a reimbursement form (found in the workbook) and presented to the Treasurer (in person or mailed) or may be dropped off at the Extension Office if you let the Treasurer know it is waiting for them there. (Kathryn will clarify this last part with current treasurers.)

Announcements

2021 Conference Update. Steve Brizzi announced that registration was now open for the 2020 state conference in Jonesboro, complimented them on an excellent program, and announced that we are progressing well with plans for the 2021 state conference to be hosted here. The next meeting will be a budget meeting with Berni, Julie, our conference co-chairs, and those

members of the steering committee with budget responsibilities. They're still working on the final details with our host venue.

2020 State Conference, Jonesboro. Patsy Louk explained where members can access the state page and find the registration information for this year's conference. Login and password can be found on page 3 of the new workbook. Anyone having problems with registration can contact Julie Treat at the state office for assistance. Kathryn and Patsy shared slides illustrating the steps involved. Patsy mentioned that we have a lot of exciting things happening in MG now and she hopes to see a lot of WCMG's in Jonesboro for the conference.

Kathryn also shared two sad announcements. Long time MG Johnny Southerland passed away and his service will be at 11:00am on 2/11 at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church. She then announced that Master Gardener Sara Fixmer had also passed away.

Steve Brizzi introduced tonight's program, a Project Fair, and invited members to stay as long as they liked and sign up for as many projects as they are interested in working on or checking out.

Adjournment. Motion made to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 6:54pm

Steve drew for door prizes and announced that persons wishing to donate gardening books, and other items, things perhaps brought in the past to give-away as door prizes, to please donate those to the rummage sale we do during the county fair. Doris Cassidy invited members to leave items in the blue box of the Extension Office lobby and she'd transport them to the fairgrounds.

Following this, the group dissolved into the excitement of the Project Fair.

Respectfully presented,
Ruthanne Hill
Secretary