



WASHINGTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
Minutes
February 2, 2021

Present: 106

Quorum: Yes

The February meeting of the WCMG membership was again held virtually with Colin Massey serving as host. Colin offered some guidelines for our Zoom sessions. Please “mute” unless you are a speaker, or wish to speak. Also, where there is a presentation, please hit “stop video”. This saves some bandwidth to make it run smoother. You will still be able to see everything. At any time, you may ask a question in the chat box to everyone, or to an individual.

Call to Order. President Kathryn Birkhead called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

Approval of December Minutes. Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Linda Morrow and seconded by Karen Hanna-Towne. Motion carried.

Approval of January Minutes. Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Kitty Sanders and seconded by Randy Butler. Motion carried.

Approval of November Treasurer’s Report. Motion to approve by Karen Hanna-Towne and seconded by Carole Jackson. Motion carried.

Approval of December Treasurer’s Report. Motion to approve by Elizabeth Hale and seconded by Susan Young. Motion carried.

Committee reports

- **Workbook Committee.** Kathryn Birkhead said that more materials will be sent out via Mail Chimp. There will also be a greater reliance on the WCMG website. She wished to thank Jan and her committee for the work they have done on this committee.
- **Website.** Kathryn Birkhead reported that the WCMG website is once again up and running. The password for the MG portion of the site is Butterfly 2016. Thanks to Kitty Sanders and Robert McMichael for their work on the website.
- **30th Anniversary.** Judy Smith reported that the April program and Garden Thyme newsletter will be dedicate to our 30th Anniversary celebration. Members are requested to send in any photos, articles, or other information about our history so it can be used in the program or newsletter. T-shirts are planned with an anniversary logo on them. More about this will be sent out later.

New Business

- **Endowment Fund Policy.** Susan Young reported that the Endowment Policy has been updated to meet the guidelines of the Agricultural Development Council, who manages our funds. The executive committee approved the policy at its last meeting, and since it is a policy rather than a bylaw change, it does not require a vote of the membership. All monies donated to the Endowment Fund will go toward college scholarships for Horticulture majors. Colin clarified that money may also be donated to WCMG and earmarked for other uses, such as projects. Donations to the Endowment Fund must be accompanied by a form found online and in the MG workbook, and the checks must be made out to ADC. The complete Policy has been added at the end of the minutes, and will also be in the new notebook.

Unfinished Business

- Susan Gardner is still accepting recipes for our Holiday collection. These can be typed out, or you can even just send a photo of a hand-written recipe. Send to mgregipessusangardner@gmail.com or gardner.susuz@gmail.com

Announcements

- MGs in the News
 - Truman Stamps, Master Gardener of the Year. Truman has been an active member of the Washington County Master Gardener Program since 2007. He was featured in the AR Democrat/Gazette this month.
 - Marty Powers of Shiloh Museum was mentioned for working with Abigail Farrell of JO Kelly Middle School in Springdale to improve an underused butterfly garden and to create an outdoor learning space.
- Photo Contest Winners for December – “Repose in the Garden” by Martha Haguewood is First Place. Second place went to Mary McCully with “Herald of Ferns and Evergreens”. Both of the photos were very beautiful!
- The subject for the February Photo Contest is “Tropical Plants”. Please submit your photos by February 15 to wcmgphotos@gmail.com. Instructions for submission can be found at wcmgar.org/entry-form-and-requirements/

Reminder - Anyone that is listening/watching with another person needs to let the secretary know in the chat box or by emailing kim.hicks.hughes@gmail.com so they can be counted on attendance.

Adjournment of Business Meeting

There being no other business to come before the group this month and with a motion to adjourn from Susan Young, the business meeting concluded at 7:02 pm.

Following the meeting, a Project Fair was presented. An informative list of projects, including contact persons, will be sent out soon to everyone.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kim Hughes

Submitted by Karen Hanna-Towne, Jim Sposato, and Susan Young for review at WCMG board meeting, Jan. 19, 2021

COUNTY ENDOWMENT

The WCMG Endowment Fund was established in 2009 to provide scholarships to University of Arkansas (UA) Horticulture students and fund other WCMG horticultural interests. It is a long-term program managed by the UA Foundation Agricultural Development Council (ADC) and administered by the Washington County Master Gardeners and the Washington County Extension Agent providing support to the Washington County Master Gardener Program. The Endowment Committee was established in 2018 as an oversight committee comprised of Washington County Master Gardeners. It is responsible for overseeing the WCMG Endowment Fund, encouraging donations, and providing information to Master Gardeners. In 2020, the committee voted to focus solely on providing student scholarships. The Committee shall meet quarterly.

ENDOWMENT FUND

The WCMG Endowment Fund exists to award scholarships from the Washington County Master Gardeners to University of Arkansas (UA) Horticulture students. These funds shall be held in an account managed by the UA Foundation Agricultural Development Council (ADC) until an amount of funds necessary to establish an endowment account are accumulated. At that time, the funds will be transferred into a permanent endowment fund. If adequate funds are not received by December 1, 2023, the donors give permission to expend these funds in support of the Washington County Master Gardener Program.

WCMG members or others may make memorials, donations to honor individuals, and general financial contributions to the WCMG Endowment Fund at any time. The endowment fund is administered by the Washington County Master Gardeners and the Washington County Extension Agent providing support to the Washington County Master Gardener Program. *(Donations may be made online at <https://uaex.formstack.com/forms/donations>. Donations not made online must include completion of the Washington County Master Gardener Endowment Fund form which can be found in the Volunteer Workbook "Forms" section or in the "Members Only" section of wcmgar.org.)*

OTHER DONATIONS OF CASH OR NON-CASH ITEMS

Washington County Master Gardeners and the general public may donate gifts of cash to the Washington County Master Gardeners organization. Donations honoring or memorializing an individual, the WCMG organization as a whole, a specific committee, or event, will be directed to the WCMG Endowment Fund. Gifts designated for a specific project will be directed to that project.

Gifts of non-cash items are subject to approval by the UA Foundation Agricultural Development Council. Each type of donation or gift of any value shall be reported to the Washington County Extension Office. The staff chair shall ensure the University of Arkansas County Extension Service (UACES) financial guidelines are followed for all gifts and donations. (<http://uaex.edu/about-extension/associate-director-finance-administration/club-information.aspx>)