

MINUTES OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS
General Business Meeting, January 2, 2018
Carol Butler, Secretary

PRESENT: 21 trainees, 67 members

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm. by President Gail Pianalto. Gail thanked everyone for the help during the year, and turned the meeting over to Washington County Agent, Berni Kurz for the installation of the 2018 officers. Berni expressed appreciation to the 2017 Executive Committee and the officers for their past year of service to the organization. He recognized outgoing president with a rose to represent the quality of her service. He then introduced the 2018 Master Gardener officers, giving each a sunflower as a metaphor of their future service and the greater beauty and strength of the group, and a charge for the new year. Installed officers: President, Judy Smith; President-Elect, Susan Young; Secretary, Carol Butler; Treasurer, Karen Jech; At-Large Board Members, Neta Winston, Jim MacLean and Elizabeth Woods.

Newly installed President Judy Smith presided over the remainder of the meeting. The Minutes for October, November, and December 2017, and Treasurer's Reports for September, October, and November 2017 were approved by the membership. The 2018 budget proposal was approved.

The training dates were announced with members encouraged to contact Carol Butler if they wanted to volunteer. Dates for the class are January 9 – February 3, Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:00-9:00pm and Saturdays from 8:00am-12:00pm.

Members were directed to email Judy Smith for inclusion of announcements in the PowerPoint presentation for the monthly meeting, or to reserve time to personally present announcements to the membership.

Joanne Olszewski announced that she would be speaking on vermiculture at the Washington State Flower and Garden Show in Seattle in February and to the WCMGs in March. She asked for members with worm bins to contact her so she could get photos of bins from them.

The upcoming 30th birthday of Master Gardeners in Arkansas celebration in October was announced. The event will be held in October at the home of P. Allen Smith. The suggestion was made to offer a bus for those interested. Idea will be further explored.

Brandon Weston, folklorist, was announced as the program presenter for the February meeting.

Joyce Mendenhall was introduced as the representative for the Awards Committee to announce the 2017 award selections:

Master Gardener of the Year - Carol Butler

Rookie of the Year – Neta Winston

Project of the Year – Elkins Community Center, represented by Jan Judy, Neta Winston, David Freeman, Carol Gulley, Jim MacLean, and Linda Smith

Friend of Master Gardeners (Group) – Judy Brittenum representing Washington County Historical Society

Friend of Master Gardeners (Individual) – Virgil Pianalto

Yes, I Can – Jim and Linda MacLean

Yes, I Can Rookie – Debbie Gilmore

Mentor of the Year – Gail Pianalto

Trowel Award (200+ hours of service):

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| Geraldine Alvis | Chris Bell | Carol Butler | Dorothy Carney |
| Debbie Gilmore | Carol Gulley | Gayle Howard | Patsy Louk |
| Linda MacLean | Jody Miskell | Gail Pianalto | Sonny Sartwell |
| Terry Smyers | Jim Sposato | Joyce Veasey | Neta Winston |

Watering Can Award (200+ hours for 5 years)

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Margaret Barron | Mary Crumley | Beverly Didier | Dian Holmes |
| Jan Judy | Jan Lefler | Kitty Sanders | Truman Stamps |
| Martha Ward | | | |

Service Awards

5 Years

| | | | |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Elaine Bowers | Tamara Burnett | Cathi Cody | Beverly Didier |
| Susan Gardner | Carole Jackson | Karen Jech | Linda McMath |
| Pat Mills | Lynn Phillips | Judy Sartwell | Sonny Sartwell |
| Jim Sposato | Joyce Veasey | | |

10 Years

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Debra Douglas | Gail Pianalto | Phyllis Wilkins | Elizabeth Woods |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|

15 Years (Lifetime)

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Colleen Brown | Brenda Embry | Ann Engskov | Jalon Haley |
| Lois Slusarek | Martha Ward | | |

Lifetime Plus (20 years of continuous service)

Betty Swope

Perfect Attendance

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Geraldine Alvis | Kathryn Birkhead | Debbie Gilmore | Joyce Mendenhall |
| Judy Smith | Jim Sposato | Elizabeth Woods | Neta Winston |

Berni Kurz requested volunteers for Thursday, January 11th to make flower arrangements at Tyson Agricultural Center for upcoming event.

Meeting concluded at 7:17pm.

Prior to the beginning of the meeting, a reception, hosted by the Mentoring Committee was held for the incoming MG trainees, and following the meeting, the Awards Committee honored the 2017 award winners with refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Butler