

Washington County Master Gardeners Business Meeting
Tuesday, April 5, 2022

The meeting was held virtually via Zoom. Present: 102 members. Quorum: Yes

Tonight's presentation came first. Vice President, Linda Morrow, introduced the speaker, Jenifer Royer. Her topic, and expertise, Planning and Designing of the Gardens Around the Square.

Call to Order: President Hanna-Towne called the meeting to order at 7:15 P.M.

Approval of March 2022 Meeting Minutes: Nancy Sloan moved and Diane Standefer seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of February 2022 Treasurer's Report: Mel Zabecki moved and Linda Morrow seconded. Motion carried.

Photo Contest Winners: Early Spring Bloomers

First Place: Talya Boerner for "Crocus Explosion"

Second Place: Nancy Sloan for "Tulip Delight"

Third Place: Joyce Mendenhall for "Red Horse Chestnut"

April's theme is Flowering Trees and Shrubs

As always the deadline to submit a photo is the middle of the month. If you want to submit a photo, fill out the form and send it to Kitty Sanders by April 15.

Master Gardeners in the News:

Lincoln Enterprise-Leader recognized Judy Cohea's WCMG Award as 2021 Rookie of the Year and Jim Sposato's WCMG Award as 2021 Mentor of the Year. Jim was Judy's mentor.

Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette had a photo of Wanda Gore pulling weeds at Headquarters House and gave a nice plug for WCMG's and the upcoming State Conference.

Diane Standefer was taking an Ollie class on photography with Diana Michelle and her photograph was also in the Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette.

Old Business

WCMG's New Website is Alive! Many thanks to the Richland Group for the consultation, Mark Harper, Kate Bogner, and A. J. Kirk. Extra thanks to the website committee especially Kitty Sanders, Sandy Jensen, Jan Leflar, and Susan Young.

Colin Massey reported on training class. (First of all he thanked everyone who worked on the fantastic new website.) Twenty trainees will have completed training Friday, April 8. It was a fantastic training and a very enthusiastic group. He looks forward to getting them into some projects. (A tour of the Extension Grounds would be held Wednesday, April 6, at 4 P.M. everyone invited.)

Patsy Louk reported on State Conference. Pre conference tour will be held six weeks from tomorrow. Three hundred thirty have registered, and one hundred volunteers have committed to work. New trainees had the opportunity to register and many have. Pre tour is full. Garden tours are filling up with another bus added. There will be great speakers. Tony Avent of Plants Delight will be the keynote speaker.

Newsletter committee has worked on a newsletter to send out on constant contact.

April 18 is the registration deadline. The conference is May 19, 20, and 21. The pre tour is May 18.

Kathryn Birkhead reported on Saturday Crew. Kathryn stated she's excited about the new website. Now people will know how to plan to join Saturday Crew. WCMG's can check the date, see the project, the leader's name, and a map to the site.

Kitty Sanders gave a demo of parts of the new website. The calendar is useful but not cluttered and easy to maneuver. The calendar makes it easy to find events, all the details, the venue, and a map as well as the recurring events like Master Gardener Monday. The Member Portal requires a password, Zinnia 2022, as it will not be available to the public. Thanks to Jan Leflar and Audley Hall for working on

the Member Resource Guide. Here WCMG's can find the Sanctioned Project Chart, all the committees, who leads them and their contact information. Here also WCMG's can find the Membership Directory, General Meeting Reports, information about upcoming meetings, and will be able to log hours as soon as it goes live from the state.

New Business

President Hanna Towne reported the Board will form a nominating committee at April's board meeting. Please consider saying yes to serving on the Board next year.

Announcements

Christine Bell will be working on recruitment at local Farmers' Markets later this spring and in early summer. If anyone wants to help, contact Chris.

VA Garden is ready to go. If interested in working in the VA Garden, contact Steve Brizzi. *[After the meeting we were reminded that a new agreement is being prepared with the VA which may delay the restart.]*

There being no other business, Kathryn Birkhead moved to adjourn the business meeting at 7:45.

In closing, Colin asked again for members to consider being mentors and thanked everyone for staying and voting. .

Respectfully submitted by Lynette Terrell, Secretary