

Washington County Master Gardeners Business Meeting
Tuesday, May 3, 2022

The meeting was held in-person at the Extension Office and virtually via Zoom.
Present: 90 members (44 in person, 46 on Zoom). Quorum: Yes

Tonight's presentation came first. Vice President Linda Morrow introduced the speakers: Susan Koehler, Farmland Preservation Manager for the NWA Land Trust and Marson Nance, NWA Land Trust's Director of Land Stewardship and Research. Their topic was Woolsey Working Farm Lease and Westside Prairie Restoration.

Project Reports

Jim McGinty said Airport Air and Military Museum needs more help. The weeds are taking over. This is a Saturday project usually the second and fourth Saturdays, but now the ones in between too. Work begins at 9 A.M.

Kitty Sanders said the Botanical Gardens of the Ozarks needs more help. In Horticulture, you will learn how to weed and prune. Sensory Garden is maintained by MGs under the leadership of Judy Smith. Work is on Mondays at 9:30 A.M. Pond upkeep can be done at your own time. Butterfly House needs daily maintenance. Help is also needed during Education and other Special Events as well as in the Visitors' Center and in the office.

Call to Order: President Hanna-Towne called the meeting to order at 7:40 P.M. A round of applause was given for the Classes of 2022 and 2021.

Approval of April 2022 Meeting Minutes: Dolores Stamps moved and Kitty Sanders seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of March 2022 Treasurer's Report: Nancy Sloan moved and Ruth Cohoon seconded. Motion carried.

Master Gardeners in the News in a Big Way:

Susan Young, Lifetime Achievement Award from Arkansas Historical Association
Kitty Sanders, Master Naturalist of the Year

Photo Contest Winners: Flowering Trees and Shrubs

First Place: Geri Avis for "Native Ivory"

Second Place: Chris Bell for "Spring Arrives"

Third Place: Sarah Teague for "Pretty in Pink"

May's theme is Garden Art.

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 May 15.

Old Business

Finally, the State Conference is this month! Wear your name tag!

Volunteers should arrive early for general registration and volunteer check-in in the Springdale Room. Nancy Sloan and Karen Hanna-Towne will assist you. Wear your volunteer T-shirt and name tag. Smile, be gracious, and make our guests feel welcome.

Patsy Louk spoke about the County 76 Auction. It will be both in-person at the Convention and virtual. Over \$11,000 was raised last year with the virtual auction so that's why it's happening again, though it will be scaled back because of the in-person one.

Recording Volunteer Hours

The website is nearing completion and scheduled to launch May 12. New user names and passwords will be required.

New Business

President Hanna-Towne reported the Nominating Committee is Kathryn Birkhead, Chairman, Doris Cassidy, and Annette Pianalto. Seven of the eight positions need to be filled, including three members-at-large. Darielle James will be our Treasurer. If you nominate someone, make sure you have checked with them first. You may nominate yourself. The list of nominees will be presented to the Board in July and at the General Meeting in August. Voting will take place in September.

An Ad Hoc Committee has been formed to explore the possibility of paying dues online. The traditional way of paying with a check or cash will still be accepted. Jill King, Chairman, Kathryn Birkhead, and Ruthanne Hill are the Committee members for this research.

Announcements

WCMG picnic June 7th, 6 P.M. at Agri Park on Garland Avenue at Knapp Street. Except for Coach and his grill, please park at the Equestrian Center. Bring a potluck dish, your own plates and utensils, and your favorite non-alcoholic beverage.

Gail Pianalto announced that the public is invited to the Garden Gate Tour and that it is a sanctioned project. Tickets are \$15.00, \$10.00 for volunteers. The Tour is June 4.

Refreshments will be served at one of the gardens, so homemade cookies are needed. Drop them off at the Extension Office May 25 from 10:30 – 12. Please put them in gallon size Ziploc bags. Contact Nancy Sloan or Diane Standefer for more information.

There being no other business, Ruth Cohoon moved to adjourn the business meeting, and Joanne Olszewski seconded. Motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Lynette Terrell, Secretary