

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

The meeting was held in person at the Extension Office.

Members Present: 53

Tonight's presentation came first. Vice-president Linda Morrow introduced the speaker, David Collins from Historic Cane Hill. His topic was Historic Cane Hill in general and the Smithsonian Gardens Habitat project which will be at Cane Hill until November 26. The Habitat project emphasizes that protecting habitats protects life.

Project Report:

Joyce Mendenhall presented Garden Explorers, which is an offshoot of 4H. She, Elizabeth Woods and Gail Pianalto lead the work, which is for children between the ages of 5 and 18.

Call to Order:

President Karen Hanna-Towne called the meeting to order at 7:25. She reminded the members that the picnic in June did not include a business meeting, so the minutes and one of the treasurer's reports that are being approved tonight would typically have been approved in June.

Approval of May Minutes: Linda Morrow moved that the May minutes be accepted as presented. Darielle James seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of April Treasurer's Report: Diane Standefer moved that the April treasurer's report be approved. Darielle James seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Approval of May Treasurer's Report: Nancy Sloan moved that the May treasurer's report be approved. Jim Sposato seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Photo Contest Winners *Native Plants*

First Place: Kitty Sanders, *Button Blazing Star*

Second place tie: Geri Alvis, *Arkansas Jewel* and Mickey Boetel, *Yummy Yellow Goodness*

The theme for July is *Birds in My Yard, Birds in My Garden*. Entries are due by July 15.

Old Business:

Karen announced that the Nominations committee would present the slate of officers and board members for 2023 at the August meeting and that the vote would take place in September.

The Membership committee has produced a short video and instruction sheet on how to record volunteer and education hours in the new system. The instruction sheet is available at the meeting, and both the sheet and the video will be distributed via Mail Chimp.

Karen reported that the Through the Garden Gate tour had 235 visitors and that the committee for next year's tour is being formed now. Volunteers should get in touch with Gail Pianalto or Keith Blowers to be a part of the planning.

Endowment Committee chair Dolores Stamps announced that the \$25,000 goal has been exceeded, with a current balance of \$25,433.29. Dolores and Kathy Launder anticipate a draw of 3-4% annually to fund a scholarship. The current need is for committee members to develop the criteria for such a scholarship. Those who would like to help with this should get in touch with Dolores or Kathy.

Karen introduced a new way to remember our members who have passed on. There will be a memorial page on the website that will include a photo and information about the member's involvement with Master Gardeners. Karen will do the research on our deceased members and will work with Kitty Sanders and Susan Young to activate the page.

New Business

Karen said that there is a sign-up sheet for those who would like to receive regular information about Saturday Crew workdays. Project chairs benefit from knowing how many people they can count on, and workers benefit from knowing what time and where work will start.

Jill King reported for an ad hoc committee investigating electronic methods of dues payment. Zelle and Venmo will be accepted for dues payment beginning this fall.

Announcements:

Karen announced that there will be an Annuals to Perennials watch party at Shiloh Meeting Hall in Springdale on Monday, July 18 from 10:00-12:00. Liz Hale added that all are welcome, not just trainees and mentors.

Linda Morrow had some items that had been left at Agri Park following the picnic and shared them in hopes of finding their owners.

Adjournment:

Susie McKinney moved to adjourn at 7:50. Jane Scroggs seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn Birkhead for Secretary Lynette Terrell