

**Northeast Tennessee Master Gardener Association
Board Meeting via Zoom
May 4, 2020**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Barbara Radice, Barbara Voigt, Betts Leach, Carl Voigt, Chris Ramsey, Don Davis, John Hitchcock, Karen Rowell, Kathy Wagner, Larry Wagner, Margaret O'Neal, Mary Cain, Pat Mazurkiewicz, Teresa Gaffner

MEMBERS ABSENT: Andrea Belcher, Gwen Ellis, Liz Blakely, Susie Morrison

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME: Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President, Karen Rowell

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Barbara Radice

Minutes were approved as submitted. Motion made by Pat Mazurkiewicz and seconded by John Hitchcock. All approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Pat Mazurkiewicz

Treasurer's report was presented and approved. Website cost is now \$15 per month. No objection from the group on the website cost. Motion made to approve budget by Carl Voigt and seconded by John Hitchcock. All approved.

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT: John Hitchcock

John suggested that we build a common Google drive so we can share documents for the Board and general membership. Group agreed that was a good idea. John will set it up.

MEMBERSHIP/CERTIFICATION: Mary Cain

Since the COVID-19 virus, no attempts have been made to contact non-paying members. Mary will send out letters to ascertain their interest in keeping up their membership. Barb Radice and Mary Cain will meet via phone to update the membership lists.

PROJECTS: Don Davis

Grant Committee approved five grants for projects: RRAC, Johnson City Hospital, Unicoi Hospital, Carver Peace Garden, and Steele Creek Park. Each Project was informed and they are required to contact Chris Ramsey before beginning their granted project.

PROGRAMS: Teresa Gaffner

August 3rd program –Gardening with Native Plants by Marjorie Hunter is still planned. We will now need to pay her honorarium but we have the funds for that.

June 29 membership meeting– Zoom meeting for a virtual garden show. Members are to send pictures of their gardens to Teresa.

COMMUNICATIONS: Barbara Radice

The woman who owns Heaton's Nursery in Elizabethton would like to promote her plants to the Master Gardeners. She has plenty of landscaping products and her nursery has been underutilized since the virus. (Her husband is quite ill and she is managing the business on her own.) Barb will contact SAPs about this and we will bring it up at the June 1st meeting.

SULLIVAN COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT: Chris Ramsey

1 – Zoom Class: Chris will be holding a Zoom class on Wednesday on Beneficial Insects. Zoom link will be sent tomorrow.

2 – COVID-19 Update: Per UT there will be no face to face meetings through July 31st, but garden work is okay, keeping “social distancing”. At the RRAC the gate is open and there is a posting on the door with a phone number to call. UT has provided a five page document on how to keep the office staff protected.

3 - MG class for 2020: May begin with Zoom meetings. Chris will be leading a planning meeting soon.

Karen Rowell adjourned the meeting at 6:47pm

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING: June 29 via Zoom at 6:00pm

NEXT BOARD MEETING: July 6th via Zoom at 6:00pm