



NETMGA
Northeast Tennessee Master Gardener Association

Northeast TN Master Gardener Board Meeting
Ron Ramsey Agricultural Center (RRAC)
Date: July 12, 2021

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Andrea Belcher, Barbara Radice, Barbara Voigt, Brenda McKinnis, Carl Voigt, Chris Ramsey, Emily Lemieux, John Hitchcock, Heather Duby, Karen Rowell, Karen Todd, Kathy Wagner, Larry Wagner, Mary Ann Lovelace, Mary Cain, Teresa Gaffner

MEMBERS ABSENT: Betts Leach, Don Davis, Gwen Ellis, Maggie McClellan, Margaret O'Neal

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by the President, Karen Rowell.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Barbara Radice

Minutes for meeting of May 3, 2021 were presented. Motion to approve by Heather Duby and seconded by Emily Lemieux. All Approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Karen Todd

Karen presented the budget as of June 30, 2021

Planned total expenses for June: \$2150. Actual expenses: \$100. Balance in checking account of \$7417.94
Spendable balance of the NETMGA Endowment as of 4/30/2021 is \$3382.98

Motion to approve by Mary Cain and seconded by Emily Lemieux. All approved.

Karen Todd presented the cost of NETMGA shirts and our current sale price. We often pay more than we get from the sales. She recommended an increase of \$5/shirt. Discussion followed. Motion made to increase price of shirts as per Karen's recommendation by Barb Radice and seconded by John Hitchcock. All approved.

VICE PRESIDENT REPORT: John Hitchcock

John requested that we acquire some nicer displays for "Ask a Master Gardener" Table.

2022 TEMG Conference: Karen Rowell

Karen Rowell reminded the group that the TEMG conference will be June 9, 10 and 11 of 2022. We will be following much of the plans we had in 2020 with some speaker changes. We have four committees: Program/Scheduling led by Natalie Bumgarner; Food/Hospitality led by Teresa Gaffner and Jane Mullins; Marketing/Publicity led by Brenda McGinnis and Heather Duby and Logistics led by Wes Walker.

Emily Lemieux volunteered to be on Logistics. Our next meeting on the conference will be September 9th at 1:00pm. Any member who volunteers at least 25 hours on the conference (prior to) will receive a 25% discount on the registration fee.

PROGRAMS: Teresa Gaffner

Teresa presented the upcoming programs:

August 2nd will be at Exchange Place with a tour of the gardens and a talk on fall gardens from Earl Hockin.

October meeting will be held at the RRAC, date TBD

December meeting will be Christmas dinner at the RRAC with a potential date of December 6th.

Teresa requested that garden pictures, home gardens or project gardens, be sent to her and they will be shown at the dinner meeting.

Teresa announced that she now has a Program Committee to work with her: Jane Mullins, Kathy Waldo, Patty Neas, Susie Morrison and Donna Fowler.

PUBLICITY: Brenda McKinnis

Brenda announced progress of the Publicity Committee:

1. Scavenger Hunt had 3 winners of \$100 gift certificates, Jim Hayes, Donna Fowler and Nancy Haas
2. There is now an "Ask a Master Gardener" column in the JC Press, which includes papers in Kingsport, Erwin and Jonesborough, still looking to get column in Bristol paper. Brenda to send copy of column to the Voigts for posting on the NETMGA website.
3. Twelve students have already signed up for the upcoming class in August. It is being promoted in the garden centers and at Farmers markets.
4. Two TV interviews have taken place and the links are posted on the NETMGA website. Brenda to copy membership when there will be a TV spot.

BYLAWS: Barbara Radice

Barbara presented a draft revision of the NETMGA Bylaws with a few changes: addition of dues and elimination of job descriptions, since they are on separate documents. Bylaws were last revised in 2012; an attempt at revision in 2017 was never approved. Group discussed some revisions that still need to be made. Barbara will edit the document and resend with the minutes of the meeting. Further discussion and approval will be at the September meeting.

MEMBERSHIP/CERTIFICATION REPORT: Mary Cain

Mary noted that not all new members are registered on the UT website. Andrea Belcher will follow-up on those members missing from the site.

FACEBOOK (FB): Heather Duby

Heather can manage the public FB page by locking down who can post on the page. Discussion ensued and most agreed that only NETMGA members should be able to post on the page. Heather will draft rules for FB page and present at next meeting.

More mentors are needed for the upcoming class, currently only two have volunteered. Heather will create a communication to solicit more members to serve as mentors.

SULLIVAN COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT: Chris Ramsey

Chris reported that as of June 1st UT has lifted all restrictions related to COVID.

The Extension Office now can accept credit cards for programs offered at the Extension Office.

NEW BUSINESS: Karen Rowell

Karen appointed John Hitchcock to chair a nominating committee for 2022 Board members. Emily Lemieux and Barb Radice volunteered for the committee.

Budget for 2022 will be on the agenda in the September Board Meeting.

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

August 2, 2021 at 6:30pm at Exchange Place

NEXT BOARD MEETING

September 13, 2021 at 6:30pm at RRAC