



NETMGA
Northeast Tennessee Master Gardener Association

Northeast TN Master Gardener Board Meeting
Ron Ramsey Agricultural Center
Date: January 10th, 2022

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Andrea Belcher, Barbara Radice, Barbara Voigt, Brenda McKinnis, Chris Ramsey, Heather Duby, Karen Rowell, Karen Todd, Kathy Wagner, Larry Wagner, Mary Ann Lovelace, Mary Cain, Millie Sue Hawk, Teresa Gaffner

MEMBERS ABSENT: Betts Leach, Carl Voigt, Don Davis, Gwen Ellis, John Hitchcock,

GUESTS: Susie Morrison, intern for Teresa Gaffner

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

Meeting was called to order by the President, Karen Rowell.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Mary Cain

Minutes for meeting of November 1, 2021 were approved as presented.

Motion to approve made by Heather Duby.
Seconded by Barb Radice.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Karen Todd

The treasurer's report was presented and approved.

There was discussion concerning allowing local NETMGA Master Gardeners to receive the customary payment of \$100.00 for programs presented at MG meetings. A motion was made by possibly Barb Radice to continue paying \$100.00 honorarium for any speaker at a MG meeting. The motion was seconded by Karen Todd. The vote was 10-2 with the motion being carried to pay to whomever a \$100.00 honorarium.

BUDGET FOR 2022

The proposed budget for 2022 was \$4400.00; the actual total for 2021 was \$4472.00.

BY-LAWS SIGNING

The current NETMGA By-Laws were signed by Karen Rowell, president, Karen Todd, treasurer, and Barb Radice, secretary. The remaining signature is needed by John Hitchcock, vice-president.

PROGRAMS FOR 2022: Teresa Gaffner

Susie Morrison has agreed to be the intern Programs Chair for Teresa Gaffner. There will be a potluck dinner for the February membership meeting. There was a discussion concerning providing a Zoom link for the members who want that option. The motion was made by Millie Sue Hawk to have the Zoom option and seconded by Teresa Gaffner. Dinner will begin at 6.30 p.m. with social hour beginning at 5.30 p.m. at the Extension Office.

April program involves a walk around Exchange Place to observe Spring Ephemerals. This walk will be conducted by Joy Moore.

June program will be at Discovery Garden at Gray Fossil Museum lead by Christy Shivell.

August program is at Steele Creek Park lead by Jeremy Stout.

October program by Robin Suggs on forest farming.

December program is the Christmas dinner.

FEBRUARY REWARDS MEETING: Karen Rowell

The Awards Meeting will be held in person on Monday, February 7, at 6.30 p.m. and via Zoom. There was a discussion about Covid related protocol such as food service and masking. Chris reminded everyone of the current UT requirements. Chris explained that he would need to request permission for a meeting of over 50 people which the February meeting would be.

TENNESSEE TREE DAY 2022: Karen Rowell

The Tennessee Tree Day activities were explained by Andrea Belcher. Trees can be preordered online from the Tennessee Environmental Council website (www.tectn.org) and can be picked up at multiple locations across the region. One location is the Sullivan County UT/TSU Extension Office. Trees can be picked up on Friday, March 18 from 8-5, or Saturday, March 19, 8-12. Barb Radice will send out information concerning tree pick up.

MEMBERSHIP/CERTIFICATION REPORT: Mary Cain

Mary reported that the membership roster currently has 152 members listed as of 1-10-22 including the members in the most recent class of 2021. There are 17 members that have not paid 2022 dues and will receive another email reminder. Additionally, an email was sent to remind the membership to record all remaining 2021 hours on the UT site (temg.tennessee.edu) by January 21. After that deadline, final 2021 hours will be tallied and certificates will be prepared for presentation at the February Membership meeting. Additionally, 3-, 5-, and 10-year service pins will also be designated. They will also be handed out at the February meeting.

PROJECT REPORT: Don Davis

It was reported by Barb Voigt that Church Hill garden project could use more support by the membership. There was some discussion concerning a new project in Mountain City by the Johnson County NETMGA members.

PUBLICITY: Brenda McKinnis

Brenda reported that the "Ask A Master Gardener" program needs to be continued.

COMMUNICATIONS: Barbara Radice

Barb reported that she will continue to send out Sign Up Genius announcements as the need arises. One need will be for the 2022 Home Show at Meadowview Conference Center, March 4, 5, and 6, in Kingsport, TN.

FACEBOOK: Heather Duby

There was a discussion concerning rebuilding the NETMGA website. A suggestion was made to contact Melody Rose, Greene County, to determine what hosting site they use. Heather also suggested that she can be helpful in the redesign.

WEBSITE: Carl & Barbara Voigt

Barbara made the suggestion that a website rebuild would be helpful in allowing a more efficient updating capability. She mentioned that the current website had its limitations and/or issues in being able to be updated sufficiently.

HOSPITALITY: Larry & Kathy Wagner

Kathy requested information concerning the supply of bottled water for upcoming events like the February Membership meeting. She mentioned a possible need for beverage cups, plates, and possibly coffee cups. The suggestion was made to inventory what is currently in the MG cabinet and use up what has already purchased and replace what is necessary to supply upcoming activities.

SULLIVAN COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT: Chris Ramsey

Chris reported that 12 people have currently signed up for the new 2022 MG class that begins January 25. It was mentioned that Washington County was having their 2022 class at the same time.

NEW BUSINESS

It was suggested that a Power Point Presentation be made of the current projects to use at the beginning of the new 2022 Master Gardener classes. Project leads should submit any pertinent information to be included in the presentation.

Also mentioned was a new project to be located in Mountain City by the Johnson County Master Gardeners. Karen Rowell poised a question about whether or not this new project had been voted on by the current MG board. It was mentioned that all projects are to board approved.

NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING – Membership Dinner

February 7, 2022 at 6:30pm at RRAC

NEXT BOARD MEETING

March 7, 2022 at 6:30pm at RRAC

Meeting was adjourned by Karen Rowell.