

Master Gardeners of Clark County
Board of Trustees Meeting
February 12, 2025

The February 12, 2025 meeting was called to order by Jill Pfister President at 10:05 AM other officers attending were: Christi Lockhart, outgoing president, George Simon II, Treasurer, Teresa Magill, Assistant Treasurer, Karen Parsons, Member at Large, Gary Watson, Incoming President, Linda Asebrook, Secretary, Pam Bennett, Beth Brooks and Salena LaSalle. President Jill Pfister asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the December 13, 2024 meeting that were distributed to the membership on January 9, 2025.

George Simon II presented the Treasurer's report which will be placed on file for audit. Ending balance for January 31, 2025 is: \$12,228.00. George also reported that the Davis Stock is down but, all stocks are down at this time. Also in his report, George reported on the dues received from the Master Gardeners, was slow and we should extend the time until the March Meeting as the attendance of the January meeting was affected by the weather. Joyce Studebaker, due to illness and long service, will be placed on Emeritus status.

Pam Bennett Report: We have received some money recently. We have 32K from Springfield Foundation, 6K from Turner Foundation, and 5K from Community Health Foundation for sidewalks. Pam will contact Brent to put us on the schedule for when the weather breaks.

We have 10,000 anonymous donations in the Springfield Foundation.

We also have 11,000 from the Baker Fund at the Springfield Foundation – the Baker's set this up for beautification in SPGA. It will generate around 10-11K annually. Do we want to set this aside for something specific each year or for general funds?

SPGA committee met, priority is signage, kiosks, west side of the Wingert Tossey Pavilion, and begin a thank you wall.

Strategic planning is set for Feb 17 and 24 from 9:00 – noon. Everyone should have gotten a link to the survey for details for Brian Raison.

Beth Brooks Report: The imprints of human feet in the snow tell me that our walkers are still using the sidewalks throughout the gardens even though they are snow covered. Disturbing to see all the trash and tents from homeless encampments in Snyder Park – really bad over by the whitewater park and out toward Plum St.

First Garden Club session at United Senior Services went really well. MGV will be giving presentations there the first Monday of the month throughout the season. The new satellite office of USS over in Medway in Bethel Township has also reached out with a request for us to offer a gardening program.

The Education committee chairs are meeting today to discuss the possibility of our hosting an activity at CoHatch on April 4th during the First Friday event. Several of us met and spoke with Jennifer Dunn (marketing director from CoHatch) about collaborating during the Philanthropy Awards presentation. The theme is “In Full Bloom”. Marilyn loaded us up with several ideas for it last evening. Deb, Connie and I are working out the details.

We will also be setting up on March 7th, International Women’s Day, for the Girls Take Over the Market Event.

We had another girl scout leader reach out to us about MGV giving a presentation to their troop. Deb Brugger is reaching out to her to coordinate.

We plan to have a presence at the Farm Market again this year - at least once a month. I had a meeting with Mike Adamson who is the VP of Mission at the hospital and one of our MGV interns last Friday to help him with Hands on Connect. He has been heading up the sustainability initiative at the hospital and saving them money by reusing reducing recycling. He has great plans for the greenspace and gardens at the hospital to include pollinator garden and possibly an arboretum.

We have added a new section to the Blades and Blooms called “Clark County MGV Out and About”. We are hoping to highlight our volunteers out making a difference in the community. We were asked to also advertise upcoming opportunities, so members are aware and can participate. We have been talking about only publishing the newsletter every other month.

Pam, Allison and I sat down Monday and hammered out a plan for labelling the trees in SPGA. We are well on our way to becoming a Level 1 Arboretum. The greenhouse crew got everything moved in and set up yesterday. I reached out to Neal about some exposed wiring in the vent in the northwest corner. He is going to have one of his guys take a look at it. Maintenance on equipment in barn. I started all and let them run for a while yesterday and unplugged and plugged in the golf carts.

Old Business: Directory Pictures- about 60 pictures of Master Gardeners still needed and the next schedule is prior to the March 12, 2025 general meeting. Garden Chairs for the Jubilee Committee, Historian, and Field Trips are needed.

It is also urgent that all Master Gardeners recertify and pay dues of \$35.00 Publishing of the Blades and Blooms was discussed and it was decided that the Blades and Blooms would be published every other month and the General Meeting Minutes would be published on the alternate months.

New Business: Strategic Plan for the future will be February 17 and 24, 2025. This includes the Board of Trustees, Missy Hawley, Marilyn Hinderer, Connie Mitchell and Sue Ann Dill.

Memorial Day Float: Discussion was held about ideas our first float in the Memorial Day Parade on May 29, 2025.

Great Buckeye Clean Up: Master Gardeners will be responsible for passing out of materials and taking the trash back. Event will be April 5, 2025 from 9-12P

Spring Pruning and Tree Workshop: On April 3, 2025, Kathy McConkey will lead a workshop on Spring Pruning and Trees at the Pavilion from 5:30 – 7:00 PM

Tents: Discussion on the need to replace tents for the Jubilee. George Simon II volunteered to check on this.

Report was given on Tom Miller and he is home from the hospital. Please send cards and prayers to Jerri Taylor and Pam Thullen.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Asebrook

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