

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

The December 12, 2025 meeting was called to order by Jill Pfister President at 9:15 AM at the Extension office. Officers attending was: Gary Watson incoming President, Christi Lockhart outgoing president, George Simon II Treasurer, Teresa Magill Assistant Treasurer, Karen Titone Incoming Member at Large. Gigi Wise outgoing Member at Large, Linda Asebrook Secretary, Connie Mitchell Incoming President, Christi Lockhart outgoing president, Beth Brooks, Jim Townsend, and Pam Bennett.

Secretary Linda Asebrook asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the October 8, 2025 meeting and Gary Watson made a motion to accept and George Simon II seconded it. All were in favor. Motion passed.

Treasure's Report George Simon II presented the Treasurer's report which will be placed on file for audit. Ending cash balance for November 30, 2025 is \$21,778.00 and assets of \$103,915.73 reported. Donations received \$7,000 for a bench, and \$175 in memory of Peggy Elsnau, was reported by George and the donors will be recognized in the Blades & Blooms. George also wanted to discuss the fence that is behind the barn which needs minimal repairs and it was decided that Dennis will fix it.

Proposed Budget George presented the proposed budget. Questions and answers were asked and George led the discussion on the topics. A motion was made by Christi Lockhart and seconded by Connie Mitchell to accept the budget with changes agreed by the Board. All were in favor. George will present the budget at the first general meeting in January 14, 2026.

Pam Bennett Report

Benches – benches have been sold; Deerwesters want to take the money for bench out of OSU funds. We have 5K in OSU to spend.

Springfield Foundation funds – we have approximately 80K in Springfield Foundation funds. Do not know if this includes the sidewalk monies, I have to meet with Lori B. to get more details.

Baker Fund at Springfield Foundation – we get 10K each year for beautification of Springfield, will be spent on Springfield Foundation feature gardens as well as other flower/plant purchases

Retirement – will likely be in Spring 2027. Pam shared good news on the OSU front; they know the impact of this garden on the community and will continue to support. We are working with OSU on an MOU.

America 250 Trees – each county is getting 250 to plant an oak tree next year. Support fees will be reduced by 250 but a photo and paragraph about the tree planting will be required or we will be billed.

America 250 committee has met and come up with a list of suggestions for activities to match up with the themes for the month. Nothing new is planned, we are tying into already happening activities.

Change in cultivar trials in 27 – Pam explained that Chadwick arboretum will be taking the trials in 27. We need to discuss with the cultivar trial committee potential future of the project.

Benches

Name plates are in process; Janet Heater is also a new one
Bill will be sent to MGVs

Beth Brooks Report:

Park bench damage. We think we can order replacement leg to repair the broken Bench.

MGV Recertification is live.

Recertifications are due December 31, 2025

Why it matters: Recertification is required annually for:

- o good standing
- o Background check validity
- o OSU liability coverage

Volunteers who miss the deadline cannot volunteer until completed.

Volunteer Hours need to be entered by December 15th MGV Dues \$35 by end of February.

December 15 MGV Cookie Exchange; Clubhouse, 2681 Prestwick Village Circle; 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Holiday Food drive – non-perishable items. I will drop off to Second Harvest Food Bank on Dec 19th . Additionally, the total pounds of non-perishable food and money that we donate will be included alongside the Victory Garden produce in our county will grow our Ohio numbers for this year.

County Coordinator Conference

Martin Cowling, consultant = Change. leadership and impact

Gained helpful suggestions for identifying and dealing with problems. Surprising takeaway: Overcommunicate key messages. Volunteers need to hear same information seven times.

Neal Carpenter, NTPRD maintenance supervisor, is retiring. Darren Kitchen will be his replacement. Next Thursday, the 18th, at 9:00 we are having a thank you Breakfast for Parks Staff at NTPRD building. Connie has been organizing the food and supplies we will be bringing in for them.

Old Business:

Jubilee Committee Christi Lockhart, Connie Mitchell and Jill Phister will be the new tri-chairpersons of the committee.

Strategic Plan Jill reported on the strategic plan and asked for additions to this report. Discussion was held as report needs to be back by next Wednesday and as there as no additions were raised the latest version will be followed.

New Business The new members of the board were introduced by outgoing President Jill Pfister and they are Connie Mitchell incoming President and Karen Titone incoming Member at Large.

Standing Committee for State Awards are: Jill Pfister, Deb Brugger and Karen Parsons.

Themes for the 2026 Adhoc Committee for the 250 Year were shared with the board.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Asebrook, Secretary
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