

BUSINESS MEETING

BCMGA – NOV 19, 2024

1. Mtg called to order at 7:00pm with a quorum determined to be present.
2. October Business Mtg Min reviewed in addition to the last page of the Sept minutes which had been omitted last month. Both were approved as presented following a motion by John Geib and Dawn Graham's second.
3. October Treasurer Report presented explaining most expenses were from the Oct Fall Plant Sale. Receipts were reconciled and the total balance was \$79,420.00.
4. Events/Workdays/Meetings – Activities continued as per usual.
Nov 20-21 is the Pecan Show at the Ext Office with more than 20 entries this year. An educational program will be held from 1:30 to 2:30 on 11/21.

The monthly educational program at the library will be on Tool Maintenance.

The annual Master Gardener Christmas Party is scheduled for 6pm at the Big Country Hall.

The Dec Exec Committee Mtg will be scheduled pending a location.

5. Committee Updates

A. Awards were presented by Ann Clark:

Sept's "Busy Bee" award went to Don Miller and "You Rock" award went to John Geib. Carrie Wright was awarded the "Busy Bee" award for Oct and Grace Broyles Rec'd the "You Rock" award for Oct.

B. Budget & Finance – will be discussed under New Business.

C. Membership statistics for Oct include 1384.25 Vol hrs.

720 Educ Hrs.

1454.75 hrs. reported by 68 MG & interns

D. MG Intern Training – Dawnyel will update assoc.

E. Plant Sale for Spring is April 12 and Oct 11 for the fall plant sale.

F. Projects: Work days will be scheduled to weed and plant the demo beds, and ML Mall. Expo planters will be completed 11/17. The new gh is set up and will be cleaned up and ready for use soon.

Thomas Elem needs a scheduled work day.

Good Neighbor Project at the Abilene-Callahan Baptist Assoc is complete. Grant

Monies will be utilized to purchase plants.

G. Recurring Special Events: Dec 10 is the annual Christmas Party in the Big Country Hall. It is a pot luck dinner and guests are welcome. New Beginnings will be the charity recipient.

2025 Spring/Summer Picnic does not have a date scheduled yet.

Garden Tours will be a spring event when scheduled.

H. Resource/Mktg: No changes

I. Training/Programs:

Saturday Seminars will have the theme “Year in the Garden”. Feb program will be presented by Propagation Specialists to attendees who will receive a free plant although there will be a charge for the program.

Monthly Library Programs will include Making Your Bed, Butterfly, Victory Garden and Irrigation.

Advanced Training opt – MGs asked to submit a list of topics they would be interested in attending should there be training available this next year.

J. Strategic Planning Committee will meet in Dec at a date to be determined.

K. Maple St Property Use – Discussion will continue under Old Business

7. Old Business

A. P&P/Bylaws – continues in progress.

B. Use of Chike Grant – no activity.

C. Shade House at Maple St – Offer made to County that MG would pay to have the fence moved but were assured the county would take care of that task.

D. Rain Barrels – need to be constructed as there are buyers requesting them.

E. Use of Old Trailer – will be converted to a “plant hospital” to quarantine plants infected with pests, etc. from healthy plants in the big gh.

8. New Business

A. Nominating Committee for 2025 Officers presented the following slate:

Pres – Dawn Graham

Pres-Elect – name in 6 mos.

VP – Stephanie McKee

Sect – Rachel Perkins

Treasure – Kathy Turner

Treasurer-Elect – name in 6 mos.

Past Pres – Jackie Sledge

More time is needed for training Pres-Elect and treasurer so there will be a 6 mo period before the offices are filled.

Motion was made by Pleas and seconded by Susie to approve the slate of officers as submitted.

B. 2025 Budget was presented by Treasurer Kathy Turner. Explanations were made reg some of the changes:

Increase ins liability by \$300 due to new greenhouse;

Survey monkey increased to \$600 from \$500;

JMG will increase funds to assist at Thomas Elementary; Future JMG projects are also expected.

Intern Supplies & Materials increased by \$200.

An additional floral license is needed for Maple St.

Additional funds are required for purchase of plants for the Plant Sale.

due to the overall increased cost of purchasing plants.

Sweetwater Community Garden and Zoo were budgeted additional funding.

Costs for the shade house proposed at Maple St. doubled.

Rain barrel supplies have increased and will require an increase in cost of the constructed barrels to the consumer.

The Propagation Class was given additional monies as well as Sat Seminars and expected expenses for training for current MG.

Door prizes for the Public Educ Presentations increased from \$450 to 700.

The expenses were discussed and explanations given for changes in the budget.

The 2025 budget shows a deficit of \$17,355 but members are reminded that the monies are never spent unless available.

C. Background Checks – Jackie stated the association will pay for the costs for members required to have a background check this year. A 3 hr. on line class is required but will count as education for the MG.

D. New Hour Requirements Beginning Jan 2025. The State minimum will be 20 hrs. educ and 10 in education. BCMGA will comply with this new requirement.

E. 2024 State Awards are being written to be submitted.

F. Association Garden Grants are available with the appropriate application and approval.

F. Election of Master Gardener of the Year and Intern of the Year: Ballots of qualified candidates were distributed. Interns can only vote for interns but Certified MG can vote on interns and MGs. The results will be revealed at the Christmas Party.

9. Extension Office News:

Dawnyel reported two extension office personnel anticipate surgery soon. Maggie had a knee replacement the day of the meeting. Pam Jones is having a hip replacement in early December.

The Pecan Show is this week with cracking and shelling on Wed, Nov 20, and judging of baked goods on Thurs, Nov 21. There will be an educational opportunity from 1:30 to 2:30 Thurs for interested MG.

An agricultural conference will be this month and MG are invited to attend at half price (\$30) and receive educational credit. Topics will include pesticides, insects, and others that would be beneficial to MG.

The Farm Show will be 2/27 and 2/28 with the Women's Fair held on 2/27. This will be another educational opportunity for MG.

Applications for MG Training 2025 can be submitted in December. Twenty five applicants will be accepted to the class which starts in Feb and completes April 29. Cost will be \$250 for supplies, a manual, and the first year dues as a MG.

10. With no comments in the Open Discussion, a motion to adjourn was made by John

Geib at 8:35. Motion was seconded by Dawn Graham.

The next Education/Business Meeting will be January 21, 2025.