

BIG COUNTRY MASTER GARDENERS

APRIL BUSINESS MEETING

APRIL 16, 2024

1. Meeting called to order at 7:17 pm by Jackie Sledge, President. It was determined there was no quorum present.
2. Review March business meeting minutes was postponed due to no quorum.
3. Review March treasurers report – extra cook books have been returned to Amazon; 9 have been credited, 12 still waiting on credit. Ending total bank balance for March was \$57,371.22.
4. Events/workdays/meetings – reviewed. John Geib will be giving a presentation on veggies in Anson April 18 at 6 pm.
5. Committee updates:
 - A. Monthly awards – individuals were not present to accept awards, will be given at next meeting.
 - B. State awards – will be announced during the state conference April 22 – 24
 - C. Budget/finance – Sales generated through square from the spring plant sale \$32,668.03, expenses \$11,247.28, profit of \$21,420.75.
 - D. Membership – total hours for March were 630.00 volunteer hours (VOL) and 547.25 Education hours (CE). 1167.25 total hours for March 2024 reported by 68 Master Gardeners and Interns.
 - E. Master Gardener training – 28 Interns continue. No report, graduation April 30.
 - F. Spring plant sale – Success! The left over plants, which were not many will be used in various projects. We had 500 customers at the in person sale Saturday. **Thank you to all** who participated; without you, we could not have been as successful as we were.
Thank you to Donna Long-Wolfer for the use of her trailer and her green house. Our 2025 Spring plant sale is reserved for April 6 – 13 in the Modern living mall; on line sale will be the 9th – 11th and the in person sale the 12th. The Modern living mall is reserved for our fall plant sale October 7 - 13, 2024; mark your calendars. A plant sale meeting is coming soon, we will be discussing the event as well as suggestions for future events.
 - G. Projects –
Demo beds - at the Modern living mall looked beautiful for our plant sale, **thank you** to those that cleaned them up. We continue to need volunteers to water and clean out weeds in all beds.
Swenson House – several special events are being planned, MG are continuing to prepare the grounds.
The Expo planters will be planted by the Interns Saturday April 20.
Sweet water community gardens - Julia Tinney will be taking the left over vegetables.
 - H. Recurring special events – Stephanie McKee will be producing a save the date (May 18) email followed by a flyer for our Spring Fling annual picnic. This picnic will be at Donna Long-Wolfer's home at 6 pm. More info to come!
 - I. Resources – continue to have our website and FB pages updated.
 - J. Training /programs

Saturday seminars – April 27 Propagation, the first 35 will have a hands on experience.

May 25 Entomology

Library programs – continue as scheduled.

Advanced training - no additional opportunities at this time. 3 individuals will be attended the propagation advanced training scheduled for May.

- K. Strategic planning committee – met on March 10th, they will meet again soon. This meeting is for the President, past Presidents, and President elect.
 - L. Maple Street property – the county was asked to move the north fence to the property line. A clean-up day needs to be schedule, watch for this volunteer opportunity.
6. Director’s meeting - This will be held in conjunction with the State conference on April 24. Registration ended April 16.
7. Old Business
- a. Policy & procedures/Bylaws review – has been started
 - b. Repair of trailer – needs to be moved and stored, decision on the trailers fate is still pending. Kathy Turner will investigate renting a U-Haul vs a new purchase.
 - c. Use of Chike grant - a second survey will be sent out with suggestions to be voted on.
8. New business
- a. Garden tours – dates TBA, an email will be sent to see if there are any interested in showing their gardens and or green houses.
 - b. Organization of storage cabinet – i.e. square equipment, label maker and MG supplies; this cabinet will be locked.
 - c. T shirts – Interns received their shirts for the plant sale and MG were able to purchase shirts as well. If anyone is in need of a T shirt, please see Kathy Turner. The public has expressed interest in purchasing T shirts; Dawnyel Luckie has contacted the State for more information.
 - d. Extension office news – none at this time.
 - e. Open discussion – Volunteers are need for Wings on the Wind (WOW) April 20 at the Abilene State Park 11:00 – 3:00.
9. Motion to adjourn at 8:11 was made by Pleas McKee and seconded by John Geib.
10. For VMS:
- a. 1 hour (VOL) Association meeting – monthly association business meeting
 - b. 1 hour (CE) Association meeting – monthly continuing education class before business meeting
 - c. 1 hours Other – food, if you brought food.