

BCMGA BUSINESS MEETING
SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

1. Call to Order at 7:30 pm by President Jackie Sledge who determined a quorum was present.
2. The August Business Meeting minutes were approved with one correction. The date of the Christmas party is Dec 10. Fran made a motion to accept the minutes with that correction and it was seconded by Pleas.
3. The August Treasurer's report shows a total balance in the account to be \$66,426.93. The report was approved.
4. Events/Workdays/Meetings: These were reviewed. An addition is Wings on the Wind, an initiative of the Master Naturalist in which MG participate. It will be held at the Abilene State Park Sat, Sept 28 from 10a to 2P.
Haunted Abilene will be 10/25 and 10/26 at Swenson House. The overall theme is "Beetlejuice." MG desiring to work on this project should contact Jackie Sledge.
5. Committee Updates
 - A. Awards – Postponed due to absence of Ann Clark.
 - B. Budget & Finance – no change
 - C. Membership- August Hours
 - 327.75 volunteer hours
 - 92.50 education hours
 - 420.25 Total Hours for August reported by 53 Master Gardeners and Interns.
 - D. MG Intern Training- Planning will be after the fall plant sale. Committee consists of Jackie, Kathy, and Ann. A survey will be taken among the last intern class, asking what they liked and what they would change.
 - E. Fall Plant Sale – Discussion reg set up, ordering plants, and other aspects of the sale. Jackie explained why some plants couldn't be ordered early.
 - F. Projects – No changes in the current projects.
 - G. Recurring Special Events
 - Oct 19 – Soup and Stew at Donna Long Wolfer's home starting at 6pm. It is suggested recipes accompany the food.
 - Dec 10 – Christmas Party
 - 2025 Spring/Summer Picnic
 - Garden Tour this fall will be Nov 16. Three greenhouses of MG will be visited.
 - H. Resource/Marketing
 - Website – work continues on this
 - Facebook – no change
 - Newsletter – members express appreciation for having a newsletter again.
 - Garden Articles on Website and Facebook – Members are contributing informative articles.
 - I. Training Programs
 - Sat Seminars completed for this year. A meeting will be held after the plant sale to discuss topics for 2025.

Monthly Library programs – will participate in determining programs for 2025.

Advanced Training opportunities – Pleas and Stephanie McKee will be attending the Superstar Advanced Training this Oct.

J. Strategic Planning Committee – work continues reviewing and revising policies and procedures.

K. Maple Street Property – MG continue to wait for County Commissioner Chuck Statler to take action to get the fence at Maple St Property moved. This would allow a shade house to be built which is instrumental in the process of propagation for the association.

6. Directors Meeting – nxt mtg Dec 6, 2024

7. Old Business

A. P&P/ByLaws Review – in progress

B. Use of Chike Grant – awaiting decision

C. T-shirts – most have been picked up but there are a few extras if someone wants another one.

D. Second Greenhouse – here and to be used as a nursery for growing seeds.

E. Shade House At Maple St – see comments above (5K)

F. Rain Barrels – The last two completed have been sold. Assoc has 18 barrels awaiting conversion to rain barrels. Rachel is leading this endeavor.

8. New Business

A. Appoint Nominating Committee – Persons interested in serving on the nominating committee to assist in developing a slate of officers for 2025 should contact Rachel Perkins or Jackie Sledge.

B. 2025 Budget – time to develop the budget

C. Background checks – Jackie explained that they are required every three years. They require on-line training before the background check can be completed.

D. New Hour Requirements – Currently BCMGA requires 12 vol hours and 6 education hours. The state has increased the minimum hours for volunteer to 20 and 10 for education.

E. State Awards for 2024 – IT is time to start looking at what might be submitted this year.

9. Extension Office News – Dawnyel thanked the MG who volunteered to assist in the Creative Arts section for the WTRF this past year.

Pecan Show – Intake will begin in November and the entries for baking and the cracking of pecans will be 11/20. Judging will be 11/21 with an educational program available for MGs afterward.

CEU Program for farmers, ranchers, etc may be open to MGs on 12/5. Topic to be announced later.

Absence – Dawnyel will be out of the office Fri, 9/20 and the Mon and Tues of the plant sale. She can be reached via texts and/or emails, however.