

## Minutes of the Southwest Louisiana Master Gardeners' Monthly Meeting March 8, 2022



President Rob Piraro called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. The club joined him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Keith Greenlee moved to approve the minutes as posted in email. Betsy Doucet seconded the motion. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

The treasurer reported that our funds have been transferred to JD Bank. We have a current balance of \$33,144.67.

Betsy moved that we accept the treasurers report, and it was seconded by Mark Derise. The report was approved by the club.

Mark reported on the early spring veggie sale. We sold 1769 plants, 25 of those were the gallon sized strawberry plants for \$15. There were approximately 100 tomato plants left over that will be potted in larger pots and offered for sale at the Garden Expo later this month. Rk also reported that Celebrity was the best selling tomato plant with Better Boy second and Creole at third. Sales totaled \$2972.55 which is enough to cover all expenses for spring planting costs including costs for plants to sell at the Garden Expo.

Rob reminded members that the steering committee meeting for the Garden Expo will be Friday (March 11) at 10 AM.

Janet Piraro reported that the south door entrance at the Garden Expo is covered and that the Beauregard Master Gardeners will cover the north entrance.

Keith reminded members that the group is carpooling to Avery Island and Jefferson Island on Wednesday, April 13. Keith moved that members fill their tanks before leaving and then again on return and turn in the receipt of the return tank for reimbursement by the club. The motion was seconded by Jessie Arabie. The group approved the motion.

Patty Palmer encouraged members to sign up for monitoring the hospitality room at the Garden Expo. Janet will email the group for volunteers.

Mark reported that the Police Jury has reported that they are working to get FEMA money to fix the greenhouse.

Julie reported that we have enough cobra head tools to sell at the Garden Expo. No need to order more now. The prices will be \$20 for the mini, \$25 for the handheld, and \$50 for the long handle.

Keith Greenlee accepted the job of coordinating the sale of Gumbo Tickets. Patty Palmer volunteered to help. Tickets will be distributed to members to sell at the Expo Steering Committee Meeting this Friday.

Jessie Arabie will be our chef for the Gumbo. It was decided to cook enough for 200-250 people. Potato salad will be purchased from Sam's. Clare Prejean volunteered to coordinate desserts.

Mark announced that the club will be planting seedlings into 4" pots after the meeting.

Rob reported that the Master Gardener coordinator from LSU needs a list of active members. He and Pam Langley will work on that list. Rob reminded people to report hours. If you have problems signing on to the LSU reporting site, you may email [imgcoordinator@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:imgcoordinator@agcenter.lsu.edu).

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 am.

Attendance:

1. Pam Langley
2. Thelma Cook
3. Keith Greenlee
4. Patty Palmer
5. Linda Bienvenue
6. Bryan Walker
7. Betsy Doucet
8. Bob Piraro
9. Janet Piraro
10. Janice Esthay
11. John J. Markham
12. Annette Desormeaux
13. Susan Burke
14. Clare Prejean
15. Jessie Arabie
16. Geoffrey Bond
17. Mary McMahan
18. Mark A. Derise
19. Barbara Watkins
20. Carolyn Miller
21. Jerry Byrd
22. Frank Conrad