

Minutes of the Southwest Louisiana Master Gardeners' Monthly Meeting April 5, 2022



President Rob Piraro called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. John Markham led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Janet Piraro moved to approve the minutes as posted in email. Mark Derise seconded the motion. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as posted.

The treasurer reported that we have a current balance of \$55,903.97. Many expenses from the garden expo have not been paid as yet.

Lenn Knapp moved that we accept the treasurers report, and it was seconded by Bryan Walker. The report was approved by the club.

Keith Greenlee reminded members that if we don't get enough members to attend the Avery Island field trip, we will not get the discount price.

Rob reminded the group that members who do not have 20 hours of volunteer time and 6 hours of continuing education will not be included in the active member list. Attending talks given at the Garden Expo will be considered continuing education.

Rob reported that the Garden Expo ran smoothly and that all Master Gardeners who worked at the Expo should be proud of a job well done.

Mark Derise reported that we have 16 flats of tomatoes left and 6 flats of eggplants. They will be sold for 75 cents each.

Bryan Walker moved and Raymond Andrews seconded that left over plants be donated to school gardens. The motion was approved.

Janet moved that plants should be given to community gardens if they request them. Pam Langley seconded the motion and it passed.

John Markham brought up the discussion of contributing to the Beauregard Master Gardeners since many of their members helped with the Garden Expo. Mark Derise moved to pay Beauregard \$500 for their work. Bryan Walker seconded the motion and the motion passed. Carolyn Miller questioned that the amount was less than what we donated to them last year, but the discussion was tabled.

Janet Piraro wants to get speakers for our meetings and encouraged members to suggest speakers that can be contacted.

Harriet Green announced that the Episcopal Church she attends is in the process of creating a prayer garden that will have walkways wide enough to accommodate wheelchairs. Anyone wanting to get involved may contact her church.

Julie Engert reported that Landscape Management donated mulch for the rose garden.

Mark Derise reported that the monies made from our silent auction at the Garden Expo was designed to school gardens. The plan is to contact the school board to ask which schools are interested in starting a school garden.

Rob reminded members that the Expo Steering Committee will meet on Friday at 10 am for review of the Expo.

Attendance:

1. Pam Langley
2. Bryan Walker
3. Thelma Cook
4. Jessie Arabie
5. John J. Markham
6. Ervin McLendon
7. Mark Derise
8. Myna Boggan
9. Linda Bienvenue
10. Janet Piraro
11. Rob Piraro
12. Betsy Doucet
13. Gloria Byars
14. Raymond Andrews
15. Linda Finley
16. Patty Palmer
17. Sparkle Benoit
18. Keith Lawrence
19. Julie Engert
20. Mary McMahan
21. Nola Ducote
22. Dianne Fruge
23. Carolyn Miller
24. Suzanne Abshire
25. Clare Prejean
26. Harriet Green
27. Leonard Knapp, Jr
28. Barbara Watkins