

**Cumberland County Master Gardeners, Inc.**  
General Membership Meeting  
June 6, 2023

President Mike Barron called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. at the Country Store; 24 members, 13 interns and 1 guest were in attendance

Guest speaker Fred Mullen discussed vegetable gardening, with an emphasis on tomatoes.

### **Officers' Reports**

**Secretary's Report:** Rita Reali reported. Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed via email. Connie Farley moved to accept the May minutes as submitted. Elaine Hanson seconded. The motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

**Treasurer's Report:** Alan reported. Through 6/5/23, total income was \$2,598.17; total expenses were \$2,658.33 for an operating loss of \$60.16. The ending bank balance was \$12,252.28. The memorial bench fund remains unchanged at \$107.95. The income does not yet include the sale of CCMG tomatoes, peppers and hostas at the recent PDF plant sale. Julia Wood moved to receive the treasurer's report. Connie Farley seconded. The motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

**Vice President's Report:** Rhoda sent around clipboards for signups for classes, etc.

**Director's Report:** Ernie thanked volunteers for working in the gardens. Another tour is coming up next week. He thanked potters, planters and dead headers, and asked folks to come out to do some work. At the end of the term, the intern will address the general membership meeting about her summer work project.

### **Committee Reports -**

**Pollinator Day:** Mike reported. TVA and UT Gardens will be sponsoring a Pollinator Day event June 20 from noon to 2 p.m. at the three state gardens. One hundred kits of bee balm, aster and an unpronounceable-named pollinator plant will be given away at each site (Knoxville, Crossville and Jackson). Bill Morgan will present a class on native pollinators. Register online.

**Plant Sale, Etc.:** The sale was pretty much sold out by noon. Master Gardeners made \$1,800 on a \$300 investment (tomato and pepper plant sales).

**Teas in the Gardens:** Carol Lorenc reported. The Daylily Tea is scheduled for June 24. Janet Dowlen and Linda Hassler (members of the American Daylily Society) would be on hand. The recipe ladies amassed eight pages of daylily recipes in 10.5-point type (this is 10.5-point type, in case you're wondering how tiny that is). The final tea for the season – the Herbal Tea – is scheduled for September 9.

**Monthly Meetings:** The board has decided to have November through March meetings in the daytime – at 1 p.m. at the Country Store. April through October meetings will remain at night, so we won't be driving home in the dark. The July meeting will be on the 11<sup>th</sup>. The June Board meeting will be on the 13<sup>th</sup> instead of the 20<sup>th</sup>. Tammy Anzenberger asked what the Umbrella Committee meeting is. Mike explained its makeup and purpose.

Gregg said the Central Regional Meeting is this weekend, Friday and Saturday, at the Rutherford County Extension Office in Murfreesboro. Alan sent out an email about the conference. The Eastern Region MG meeting in Chattanooga is set for September 8-9 and will focus on the ecology of the Tennessee River. The Western Region meeting is in October in Jackson, but they've got a Summer Celebration slated for July 13 in Jackson. Our Fall Gardeners Festival is set for August 29, and it'll be all hands on deck for that event. Ten of the 2023 interns already have their hours in to be certified Master Gardeners. Mike segued into the May meeting's having been combined with the last MG intern class and what a successful and fulfilling event that was. He touched on the Teas in the Gardens on May 13, master gardeners' talks at the Art Circle Public Library, new planter boxes on the deck at the PDG, in excess of a thousand rose bushes planted and the ongoing garden tours and how the new interns are jumping right in and taking part in all those endeavors.

**Fun & Games:** Margo has been organizing field trips for MGs; they're publicized on the Facebook members-only page.

**Speakers Bureau:** Julia Wood reported. The Harriman Garden Club asked her to speak on bonsai.

**Adjournment:** Rita moved to adjourn. Linda Ferris seconded. The motion passed unanimously on voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita M. Reali, Corporate Secretary