

Cumberland County Master Gardeners, Inc.
General Membership Meeting
March 3, 2026

DRAFT

President Margo Carroll called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. at the Country Store.

Opening Remarks:

- Margo showed a letter received from Landscape Solutions regarding how grateful they are for MG quality classes and projects
- Margo wants our group to win a shovel, which is the prize for the Search for Excellence Award. Although our group won national recognition in the past for the Kindergarten area, the last time we won the Search for Excellence was 2010. There are multiple categories, and one entry per category is allowed (5/1/26 deadline) so we are hoping to enter in as many categories as possible
- Margo intends to keep the meetings at 1pm this year

Officers' Reports

Secretary's Report: Sharon McKinney reported. Minutes of the previous general meeting were distributed via email 3/2/26 and are posted on the website. Deni Martin moved to accept the February 2026 General Meeting minutes as submitted. Rita Reali seconded. Motion passed unanimously on verbal vote.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Lee-Briggs reported.

- Sharon McKinney received the treasurer's report through text 2/17/26: Through 1/31/26, beginning balance was \$33,999.67. Total income was \$1,814.38, expenses \$2043.18; ending balance was \$34,770.87.
- Motion to accept the treasurer report moved by Rita Reali and seconded by Michelle Williams. Motion passed unanimously on verbal vote
- At the time of the meeting, 60 members had paid their annual dues, deadline is the first meeting in May (5/5/26)

Committee Reports

Classes in the Gardens:

- Training for the hosts will be 3/19/26 @ 2pm at UT Gardens, Crossville (UTG-C)
- Signup sheet was passed for MGs to sign up for primary host, co-host, and backup hosts for available classes

Flower, Lawn & Garden Festival:

- FLAGF is fast approaching, with over \$6000 collected so far for booths, most of which are sold. There is more room in the expanded outdoor field area this year for more vendors to set up. There is still a need for food trucks and sponsors- all ideas welcome
- Susan Stoneberg will run the plant sale and is looking for donations. Plants need to be potted up and labeled. Please check thoroughly for insects/disease

- Kathy Limp will run the yard sale and is looking for garden/outdoor related donations. Leftover items will be donated to other groups having yard sales if you've not indicated you wanted unsold item(s) back. Note: Christmas items did not sell well last year
- We are asked to bring wagons in the two days before the festival if available- please have them labeled with the owner's name and they will be returned at the end of the festival
- Rita Rice reported. Tomatoes and peppers are coming in the week of 3/16. As soon as the date is set an email will be distributed for volunteers to come to UTG-C to pot them up
- Kathy Towles reported as the lead for the silent auction. Any quality garden/outdoor themed items that can be auctioned should be brought to the 4/7 and/or 4/21 MG meetings, or you can contact her to meet: kktowles79@gmail.com or 502-648-9780

Hospitality: Rita Reali reported. Donations of food that does not need refrigeration are welcome for us at the FLAGF. Examples include breakfast casseroles, sandwiches, etc

Publicity: Kristi Dubois reported. Quality photos are needed for publicity for all MG activities, send to her.

Teas in the Gardens: Susan Partch reported. Julia Wood is looking for donations of single teacups with saucers to be used for decorations for the 6/13 and 9/12 Teas.

Umbrella Committee: Umbrella committee meeting was held 2/23/26 and minutes were distributed via email 3/6/26.

Announcements:

- Mike Barron asked for a show of hands as to who has Smart Yard certified property (three) and who would be interested in certification (most of the meeting members). He is the speaker for next month's general meeting (4/7/26), and will explain the theory and process at that time
- Greg is asking for a volunteer to teach a one-hour bucket/container gardening class for Mr. Finley of the Housing Authority some time the week of April 6th.
- Vicky May will be our speaker today, after meeting adjournment. Subject is growing from seed using soil blocking technique.

President Carroll adjourned the meeting at 1:59 p.m.

Next general meeting: 4/7/26 at 1pm

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon McKinney, Corporate Secretary