

Cumberland County Master Gardeners, Inc.

General Membership Meeting

March 4, 2025

President Margo Carroll called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m. at the Country Store.

Opening Remarks: Margo recognized our guests from the Master Gardener group in Fentress County.

Renee Lloyd was our guest speaker; she did a presentation on greenhouses.

Officers' Reports

Secretary's Report: Rita Reali reported. Minutes of the previous general meeting (thank you, Linda Ferris!) were distributed via email. Deni Martin moved to accept the February minutes as corrected. Connie Farley seconded. The motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Briggs reported. Through 3/3/25, total income was \$1845; total expenses were \$103 for a net operating gain of \$1,742. The ending bank balance was \$28,603.53. The memorial bench fund and the PDG support fund remained unchanged. Linda Schaffer moved to receive the treasurer's report. Tracy Scrimsher seconded. The motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

Old Business

Speakers Bureau: Carol Burdett reported. She has a list of speakers and their preferred topics.

Classes in the Gardens: Julia Wood reported. Brochure has been printed, but some of the info needs to be revised. Teas tickets will go on sale March 15. Something will have to be posted on the website. Kelsey will update the website. They had 33 people at Gregg's turfgrass class.

Front Beds: Sue Maruska reported. The beds out front need sprucing up. Volunteers welcome.

May Membership Meeting: The 1 p.m. meeting will be a celebration in the big room for all the interns, and Gregg will pass out hour pins. We'll also discuss whether to do evening meetings.

FLAG Festival: Leslie Mullican reported. She held up a map of booths already sold. Applause ensued. There are 16 booths left, including three outdoor booths. She's got a stack of cards for folks to distribute to small vendors to sign up. Volunteers: "It's a lovely day to sign up to be a volunteer for this festival." We need 40 volunteers for Thursday, 56 for Friday and 60 for Saturday. Sign up now (please)! Please include your cell-phone number when you sign up so she can nag you incessantly. Tomatoes and peppers will be picked up March 26. Potting will begin at 9 a.m. on the 27th in the greenhouse behind the equipment buildings at the PDG. He's looking for volunteers. Greg put together a book on the various tomato and pepper varieties last year, and he will do it again. Someone else is needed to put the variety names on popsicle sticks (Tony and Andrea volunteered to do this). We need popsicle sticks, too. Items for the silent auction are being accepted at the next general meeting. Workshops: We've got Crystal Blankenship doing a canning/jelly class; Angela from the Dogwood Exchange will do a class on tile mosaic plant trivet; a man from the hiking club has also agreed to speak. She's looking for a lead for the yard sale committee. Kathy

Limp has agreed to step up as lead. It'll still be in the chicken coop and can be just about anything; they don't even have to be garden related. Margo is working on a list of signs and sign quantities for Greg. We'll also have a plant sale; see Renee Lloyd about that. She'll accept plants on load-in day and will have pots if you need them.

New Business

PDG Coordinator: Vicki May reported. She talked about the Adopt-a-Spot program. She said she loves the first quote on the new website: "Where Gardening Knowledge Blossoms." She sent an email February 19 and a reminder on February 26, with a request for input from master gardeners. Results thus far:

- Requests for a tour for MGs/interns, sort of an overview of the various garden spots available for adoption.
- Define expectations; talk about communications; how to manage the gardens seasonally. Managing water hoses.

Vicki bribed folks to commit to tending the daylily beds by offering a dozen eggs to each person willing to sign up to tend the daylilies.

Vicki said "common areas" aren't designated as spots to be adopted (e.g., the spots around the garden restrooms) and are available for "citizen gardeners" to tend on an as-needed basis.

Margo reminded us this is the 20th anniversary of the PDG.

Website: Kelsey Whitefield demonstrated the functionality of the new website, and showed how to update our information.

Bird-Seed Treats: Vicki has four bird-seed treats available for sale.

President Carroll adjourned the meeting at 3:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita M. Reali, Corporate Secretary