

CUMBERLAND COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS INC.
General Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2025

President Margo Carroll called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. at the Country Store. She introduced the new Board members and asked each of them to say a few words.

Carol Burdett was introduced first as she had to leave early. She is head of the Speakers Bureau and wanted everyone to know about this committee and to let us know she needs speakers. She passed around a clipboard for people to list kinds of things they would care to speak about. Gregg has several PowerPoint presentations that can be used.

The new master gardeners of the class of 2025 were recognized as being present and welcomed.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the last general meeting on November 5, 2024 had been previously distributed via email. Deni Martin moved to accept the November minutes as submitted. Eileen Hansen seconded. Motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Briggs reported that as of 1/29/25, the balance in the checking account is \$28,603.00 There were no expenses or income for the month, other than Festival vendor income. Ron Drechnik moved to receive the treasurer's report. Sue Maruska seconded. Motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

Budget: The 2025 budget was distributed. Discussion ensued on various items, one of which was hospitality. Ron Drechnik objected that \$100 was not nearly enough. After much input and discussion, Dick Kaleba moved to authorize the Board to meet with Ron to determine an amount appropriate for funds in place, not to exceed \$500. Elaine Hansen seconded. Any amount more than \$500 should be discussed by the Board and brought before the membership for approval. The motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

Julia Woods asked about printing expenses for brochures, etc. at the Gardens. The Classes in the Garden line item is \$1,000, which should cover any expenses. Sue Partch pointed out the Promotional Materials line item covers any other publications.

Sid Morgan moved to accept the budget as amended. Dick Kaleba seconded. The motion passed unanimously on voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Classes in the Garden: Julia Woods reported. The first class on turf grass, presented by Gregg Upchurch, will be held in late February. The class schedule will be online in the next 1-2 weeks.

Teas in the Gardens: Sue Partch reported the committee have had meetings. The first Tea will be the Honey Bee Tea on June 14, and the second will be a Cranberry-Orange Tea on September 13.

Christmas Luncheon: Connie Farley will head up luncheon this year. It will be catered, here at the Country Store, on December 2, 2025 at 12 noon. We will have an ugly sweater contest.

Flower, Lawn & Garden Festival: Leslie Mullican reported. Committees have been formed. Signup sheets are on the counter. Once the committee heads see who has volunteered, they will contact those on the list about getting together to plan.

Tomatoes have been ordered. Mike needs 3” pots, if you have any.

A steering committee has met twice to oversee the other committees. We have already received approximately \$4,000 in vendor fees through Eventeny, our online partner. Out of 58 booths in Bldg. #1, 13 are left; three are left in Bldg. #2 and five in Bldg. #4.

If you need signs, let Greg Recht know. Festival setup is Thursday only.

Renee Lloyd is in charge of a plant sale at the Festival. She’s looking for potted plants from your garden, your shed, your house. The purpose is to provide as many plants as possible.

Kristi DuBois is in charge of publicity for the Festival. She needs writers, photos and/or articles for the *Chronicle* insert by early March (ideally). Email Kristi at kristidubois1@gmail.com.

Carla Lund is in charge of the Silent Auction. Some vendors have indicated they will donate items. She will collect donations at any membership meeting, in March and April as well as at the intern classes. She can pick up items if you need them gone.

Vicki May is the new PDG Coordinator and will be transforming the PDG Adopt-A-Spot program. She’ll be asking teams of people, instead of a single person, to adopt a spot. Look for more information to come.

Plant Sale: Gregg Upchurch stated he has spoken to Shalena and the sale will be in May, following the Festival. She’ll need volunteers. Friends of the Gardens receive 10% off. More info to come.

Bird Seed Wreaths: Linda Ferris reported. She showed a sample of the wreaths being produced at the Gardens. Vicki has all the materials ready to go when volunteers come for a called session. They sell for \$15 each and can be ordered online or by calling Jennifer at the Gardens. She wondered if they shipped well and was assured they ship very well.

Intern Classes are Tuesdays from 9:00 – 12:00 noon. Any master gardener is welcome to attend along with the interns.

Margo mentioned the next Board Meeting is February 18 at 1:00 at the Country Store. Anyone is welcome to attend and to bring ideas or items to discuss.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Deni Martin, seconded by Linda Ferris, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Ferris for
Rita M. Reali, Corporate Secretary