

## LPMGA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

### April 2019 Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 16, 2019/1:00 p.m.

Ira Nelson Horticulture Center – Library

2206 Johnston St, Lafayette, LA 70503

**Call to Order:** LAFMG President, Juan Nieto, called the Executive Board Meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m.

#### **Roll Call:**

Juan Nieto  
Colette Anzalone  
Ellen Garacci  
Patricia Soileau  
Marsha Bayer  
Louann McClelland-Long  
Dan Devenport  
MaryAnn Armbruster  
Debbie Dupuy  
Babette Werner  
Paul Manual  
Lynn Dubois  
Kathryn Soileau

**President:** Juan Nieto called for the approval of the March Board Meeting minutes

Marsha Bayer moved to approve the March minutes

MaryAnn Armbruster seconded the motion

Motion passed

Juan informed all that the last School Garden class of the 2018/2019 school year will be held during the upcoming week. Twenty (20) schools have applied for grants, allowing them to be included in the program beginning next school year. Interviews will be conducted by Celeste Finney, Candy Bienvenu, and Juan Nieto and are scheduled for May 13 – 17.

Dan Devenport stated that some classes are preparing for and taking the standardized tests in the spring, leaving little time for working in the gardens.

Dan asked if we should have the classes not being tested, making spring gardens and the classes required to take the standardized tests, make fall/winter gardens?

**Treasurer:** Debbie Dupuy, is currently collecting payments for the MG May Social. The event is Wednesday, May 1<sup>st</sup> and the cost is \$10/person, members only. The deadline to register is April 26<sup>th</sup>.

The social will be held at the home of

Pam Womack  
1018 Bayou Tortue Road,  
Broussard, LA

5:00 – 7:30 PM

\$10/person – members only

Payments should be sent to Debbie Dupuy

119 Bellridge Drive  
Lafayette, LA 70506

Although the weather was a little rough, the Festival des Fleur was a success and, to date, the total we earned was \$5,076.17. Juan asked if we should move our booth indoors next year?

Dan suggested that we reconsider the location of the talks and presentations next year.

Louann asked about the purchase of tents/canopies. We discussed that some were purchased in 2018 and we will replace others as needed.

**Correspondence Secretary:** Ellen Garacci, sent two cards recently. May Vidacovich's father died and Patsy Server's sister died.

**Member at Large:** Marsha Bayer, is working to meet with our committees. She has had limited success as many of our committees do not have regular meetings.

**Volunteer Coordinator:** Louann McClelland-Long, has been working to distribute all unclaimed name badges and certificates.

Louann has received a few requests from members who do not remember their passwords or user names.

On our monthly report, the recorded volunteer hours for 2019 is less than the numbers from 2018 for the same time period. It was discussed that those numbers will rise when members record their time later in the year.

The system shows a discrepancy in the recorded hours because the system rounds-off entries.

**Vice President:** Colette Anzalone, thanked all that volunteered for the Festival des Fleurs, it was a success. She has booked speakers through September for our Monthly Meetings.

Dan Devenport asked if we should invite City/Parish Board Members to our monthly meetings? 20% of the AgCenter budget is from the City/Parish government and the Lafayette Parish School Board.

Juan asked if we can have committee chairs give presentations and discuss their projects at a Membership Meeting? He would also like to encourage class members to attend that meeting.

**Recording Secretary:** Patricia Soileau – Present, no report

**Newsletter Editor:** Mary Gladney – absent

**AgCenter Representative:** Dan Devenport, stated that Maureen Phelan took the MG class in New Orleans and has been inactive for a while. Maureen recently moved to Lafayette and is interested in becoming active with our program. After discussion, MaryAnn Armbruster moved that we accept Maureen Phelan as a member of our organization, once she has paid her annual dues and completed her volunteer/continuing education obligation.

Marsha Bayer seconded the motion

Motion passed.

## **Old Business**

**Sustaining Members:** Juan would like for our organization to extend consideration to our long-term members. Discussion needed to determine appropriate consideration.

## **Unfinished Business:**

**Social Media Committee:** Juan Nieto met with MG members that are working with different aspects of social media (Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, Web Page, etc.). It was decided that they will not be grouped into one committee and the people working on specific items will continue to be responsible for those activities only.

Meagan Stogsdill has offered to include an area on our MG website for members to upload pictures of our activities.

Karen Willingham and Tessie Hoffpauir will be working together on our webpage.

**Lecture Series – Lafayette Parish East Regional Library:** MaryAnn Armbruster stated that the lecture series is averaging twelve (12) attendees per month. MaryAnn would like to address, with the library, how the lecture series are advertised.

**Handbook Committee:** Louann McClelland-Long, advised that the Handbook Committee provides updated handbooks to the new class members each year. Because the state Advisory Committee has not met yet, it will probably be too late to include any changes made this year into the Handbooks distributed to the class of 2019, unless the committee meets relatively soon. If they do meet soon, this will allow the Handbook Committee to address the changes. Then, our Executive Board will need time to review and vote on the changes. If these things happen in a timely manner, the new class members may be able to receive their books at the end of the class (November).

## **New Business:**

Louann McClelland-Long congratulated Juan Nieto on his recent marriage to Kathy.

**Ad-Hoc State Advisory Committee:** Juan Nieto advised the Board that an Ad-Hoc committee was established to represent the Lafayette MG Program at the state advisory committee meeting to be held this year. Babette Werner will chair the committee, which will include members Louann McClelland-Long and Juan Nieto.

Babette asked if the state MG Advisor, Sarah Shields, has issued guideline, goals, or objectives for the committee meeting. Neither Juan, nor Dan Devenport, have received any guidelines. Babette did state that, instead of having one statewide meeting, it will be divided into regions.

Babette will keep the Board advised of any information that she receives.

**School Garden Initiative:** Juan Nieto informed us that on April 9<sup>th</sup>, participants in the School Garden Initiative were invited to the Lafayette Consolidated Government monthly meeting. Two of the Consolidated Government board member participated in the School Garden Cook-Off. Also, in attendance at that meeting were the 2018 & 2019 winners of the Farm Bureau – Ag In The Classroom Award.

## **Announcements:**

**LAFMG Spring Social:** Our Spring Social will be held May 1, 2019, at the home of Pam Womack  
1018 Bayou Tortue Road, Broussard, LA  
5:00 – 7:30 PM  
\$10/person – members only  
Payments should be sent to Debbie Dupuy  
119 Bellridge Drive  
Lafayette, LA 70506

**LAFMG May Board Meeting:**

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

1:00 PM

Ira Nelson Horticulture Center – Library

2206 Johnston St, Lafayette, LA 70503

Open to all members

**LAFMG June Membership Meeting:**

Wednesday, June 5, 2019

6:00 PM

Lafayette Public Library – Southside Branch

6101 Johnston Street – Lafayette

Our speaker will be Charles Hebert and he will be discussing our Rules and Codes

Open to the public

**Adjournment:** With no further business to discuss, Juan requested a motion to adjourn.

MaryAnn Armbruster moved that the meeting be adjourned

Debbie Dupuy seconded the motion

Motion passed

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:18 p.m.

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Respectfully Submitted by Patricia Soileau  
LAFMGA Recording Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_