

LPMGA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Ira Nelson Horticulture Center

Tuesday May 16, 2023 / 1:00PM

Call to Order: LPMGA President Mary Gladney called the Executive Board meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Roll Call: 2023 Board:

Bootsie Durand

Juan Nieto

Angela Moles

Mary Kramer

Meagan Stogsdill

Christine Devenport

Louann McClelland- Long

Maddox Miller

Guests:

Susan Wilhelm

John Hebert

Mary asked for approval of the minutes from the April board meeting. Louann moved to accept the minutes and Meagan seconded. Minutes were approved as submitted.

New Business:

Mary asked for New Business first, in order to allow guests to present information.

Susan Wilhelm, MG from Abbeville, presented a project proposal, for the Christian Center Community Garden in Abbeville, La. The garden provides fresh fruits and vegetables to the center to provide free cooked meals for qualified recipients year- round, with seasonal crops. The meals are provided four days a week and to seniors only, 5 days a week. The proposal requested that the community garden be listed as a MG “sanctioned” event so that the MG

volunteers from Abbeville, working in the garden could receive volunteer hours. If approved, the garden would become a new site for MG volunteers to provide education and service in their own community. The board members felt that this project is important and suggested that a more specific educational component for the garden be added, before a final vote.

The second item of New Business was the presentation of the itemized financial report, as of April 30, 2023. Board members were asked to look over the report, make suggestions to change or eliminate dated budget categories, for future use. John Hebert (Financial Committee Member) and Angela answered questions. Some items were corrected or further explained. This report will be presented at the June meeting for member approval. Angela Moles summarized that as of April 30 we had income of \$25,131.85 and expenses of \$15,131.42 The net income was listed at \$10,000.43.

President's Report:

Mary listed the following committees that still need chairmen:

Strategic Planning, Historian, Property Squad, Jr. MG, Field Trips and Ask a Master Gardener. If anyone is interested in chairing (or co-chairing) please contact Mary, especially Ask A Master Gardener, which is still an important and ongoing outreach committee.

Vice- President Report:

Bootsie reported that 81 people have registered for Dans Les Jardin on May 20,2023.

Past President Report: No Report

Treasurer Report:

Angela again referred to the financial statement for income, expenses, and net income. John Hebert, Financial Committee member, complimented Angela on her efforts to compile the quarterly report, and asked if it would be possible to have a balance sheet, and profit and loss statement, presented to the Board every month.

Bootsie asked if the current Quicken budget program could give us an “actual” vs “budgeted” printout as several budget categories are no longer used.

Corresponding Secretary Report: No report

Recording Secretary: No report

Mary did report that the Ochsner Community Garden Project is on hold at present due to recent lay-offs at OUMC hospital and staffing changes.

Member at Large:

Christine had 2 issues to come her way in April ,and both were addressed.

Volunteer Coordinator: No report

LSU Ag Agent Report:

Maddox updated the Board on recent LSU Ag leadership. Dr Matthew R. Lee was named Vice President and Dean for the College of Agriculture. Dr. Tara Smith has been permanently appointed as Associate Vice President and Director of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service. Dr Mike Salassi will serve as Director of Agricultural Experiment Station (Research).

Maddox reviewed a request for a need for free MG signage from LSU Baton Rouge. There were no requests, as signage has been recently acquired.

Maddox announced that the tentative date for MG Plant Fest is Saturday, September 30, pending approval from UL.

The Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) is looking for approximately 6 volunteers to help with hosting a workshop and farm tour on May 23 -24th, at the Cade Farm. He will send an email to members who may wish to volunteer.

Announcements :

The June meeting will be held on June 7 at the Southside library at 12:00 PM. The guest speaker will be Larry Allain of the Cajun Prairie Habitat Society. The board meeting is scheduled for June 20 at 1:00 PM at Ira Nelson. There will be no general or board meeting in July.

Adjournment:

Christine moved to adjourn the meeting. Bootsie seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kramer , Recording Secretary