JEFFERSON COUNTY
Master Gardeners

Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.

Members Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2026/Lecture Hall/ Birmingham Botanical Gardens / 2612 Lane Park Road, Birmingham, AL 35223

The Meeting was called to order at 10:15 AM by President - Katherine Ennis

- The minutes of the July 14, 2026, meeting were read, and a motion was made by Amy Weis and seconded by Beth Elliott to approve the minutes.

First Order of Business- Treasurer's Report- Skip Craig.

Regions Checking Account Starting Balance 7/24/2026 **$13,752.06**

Deposits

Apron Sales	S45.00
2027 Membership Dues	$60.00
	$105.00

Expenditures

Member Meeting Refreshments	S36.39
Community Service	S108.80
Community Service Self Storage	$155.00
Intern Project	$257.40
Master Gardener Reunion Staff	$ 64.00
	$ 621.59

Regions Checking Account Ending Balance (8/25/2026) **$13,235.47**

Regions MM Account Operating Reserve Balance (8/21/2026) **$12,716.54**

Regions MM Account Grant Balance (8/21/2026) **$ 6,559.86**

Regions Certificate of Deposit reinvested, matures 4/8/2027 **$16,767.39**

TOTAL ASSETS $49,279.31

Current Liabilities (Intern Projects, AMGA Dues) **($ 8,897.04)**

NET ASSETS **$40,382.27**

Second Order of Business - Announcements - President - Katherine Ennis

- The JCMGA Reunion Reception will be September 15th. Registration and a food sign-up have a link in the newsletter. This will be held in the Ireland Room.
- The Intern Graduation is scheduled for November 10th. This will be in place of our regular meeting.
- We will have a Conference Committee Meeting immediately following this meeting. All conference committee chairmen are asked to attend, and anyone else who is interested is welcome.
- Two members of the AMGA board are attending this meeting. They are: the president, Debbie Boutelier, and Vice President, Julie Conrey.
- If you would like to donate any items to the silent auction at the conference, such as artwork, yard art, or gardening tools, please let Miesha or Mary know.

Third Order of Business - Announcements for Bethany O'Rear by Amy Weis

- The pollinator census is just around the corner: August 21st and August 22nd from 9:00 to 11:00. If you are hosting a party for the event, there are supplies for you here, at the membership table.

Fourth Order of Business - Announcements from the Advisory Board Meeting - Amy Weis

- Active Membership requirements are:
    - You have signed the Memorandum of Understanding
    - You have 25 volunteer hours and 10 CEU hours reported. You have until December 31st to get in all of your hours.
        - If TWO YEARS go by and you have not gotten your hours, you will be a certified INACTIVE member, and you will remain so until you get these hours.
        - If you remain INACTIVE for 3 years, you will have to partially redo your certification, and you will have to pay $100.00
        - If you remain INACTIVE for 10 years, you will have to completely redo your certification.
    - You have paid your dues of $35.00 (This is $25.00 for local and $10 for/to the AMGA). Note that AMGA has a LIFETIME membership that allows you to pay $150 one time. That does not, however, cover your local Jefferson County dues of $25.00 yearly. You have until November 30th to pay your dues.
        - If you do your hours, but do not pay your dues, you are considered a certified ALUM, just not an ACTIVE MEMBER.
- Your membership gives you
    - Open door to the meetings/events
    - Access to the newsletter
    - Being able to serve on a committee
    - Being able to vote
    - Eligibility for badges and awards
- Nominating season has opened for both the AMGA and JCMGA. If you are interested, please express that to Amy Weis.

- The process for badge replacements has changed. Print out the form from the AMGA website, complete and turn in the form along with your check to Linda Massey, Chair of the Membership Committee. She will sign and forward it to the appropriate AMGA contact.

Fifth Order of Business - JCMGA Opportunities - Amy Weis

- Mahjong is available every 2nd and 4th Monday. If you are interested in learning, let Amy know.
- Anyone that is interested in seeing the movie, "The Rivals of Amziah King," Friday the 14th. We will meet at 7:45. The Foxhound Bee Company involved in the movie is from Birmingham. Purchase tickets online at "The Sidewalk Film Festival".
- Our nominating board consists of Amy Weis, Katherine Ennis, and Judith Rives.
- Several of our board members attended the Homewood city council meeting where the council named the week of our conference "Alabama Master Gardeners Week". Our conference will be held in Homewood at the Rosewood Hall.
- Katherine Ennis is planning on giving a detailed report of Conference news and updates on a monthly basis. This is to boost morale for the next 8 months as we get closer to the conference date: April 7, 8, and 9 of 2027.
- Several of the JCMGA members received their new badges that were due at the state conference, but were omitted during the 2026 conference.
- September 26th is the Fiesta of Birmingham at Linn Park. A sign-up went around to gather helpers for the JCMGA booth.

Sixth Order of Business - Conference & Committee Reports

- Fundraising - Fundraising is on a break until after the conference
- Helpline - Help is needed to cover the shifts for the Help Line. Please contact Susan McNamara if you can be of assistance, or if you want to learn how to work the Help Line.
- Community Service - We have several requests from schools about their gardens. We need someone to meet with the teachers and lead a school vegetable garden.
- Hospitality - No news
- Membership - No news

The Business portion of the meeting concluded at 10:48 am.

A motion was made to close the meeting by Katherine Ennis.

The Educational portion of the meeting began at 10:55 am.

"The Heart of Rainwater Catchment" was the subject presented by Bronson Lubresky. He is an Extension Agent with ACES and is passionate about water, topography, water harvesting on the landscape, key line design, earthworks, ponds, and rain barrels. His philosophy is to get the water to flow slowly, spread out, and sink into the land. His slideshow helped show us examples of ways to make this happen.

The educational portion concluded at 11:39 am, with door prizes to follow.

ATTEST BY:

Jennye McCreary

Jennye McCreary, Secretary

Katherine E. Ennis

Katherine Ennis, President