Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.

Members Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2026/Auditorium / Birmingham Botanical Gardens / 2612 Lane Park Road, Birmingham, AL 35223

The Meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM by Vice President Beverly Vonder Pool.

- The minutes of the March 10, 2026, meeting were approved with a motion from Jennye McCreary and seconded by Amy Weis.

First Order of Business:

Announcements by Past President Amy Weis

- The AMGA fall seminar will be on December 8, 2026, in Auburn, AL. One of the speakers will be "The Gestalt Gardener".
- We have a new AMGA handbook that will trickle down to all the associations soon.
- The conference in Huntsville had about 21 people from Jefferson County. That was a great attendance.
- We will be hosting the conference next year, so we gathered a lot of information about what to do and what not to do from the Huntsville conference. Everyone is encouraged to volunteer in any way. Volunteer members can speak with Katherine Enis, Judith Rieves, and Amy Weis via email. The Roots & Shoots newsletter contains everyone's emails just mentioned.

Announcements by Extension Agent Bethany O'Rear

- Bethany went over the "250lb Challenge". In conjunction with the country's 250th anniversary, the outreach groups at Auburn University were tapped by the president to establish something from Grow More Give More. The challenge is for 250 pounds of food to be collectively contributed between Memorial Day and Labor Day, 2026, to their favorite food assistance program. This amount is very achievable for Jefferson County and many of the other 67 counties in the state. This is a friendly challenge between the counties. For more information, look at the Grow More Give More website.
- Pollinator Partners of Alabama certification training is for anyone passionate about pollinators. This "Train the Trainer" program educates people about pollinators in order to go into their communities and train others about pollinators and to get the word out about the pollinator census in August. Seven of these trainings will be held throughout the state. Our local training is June 30 at Petals from the Past in Jemmison, AL, from 8:30 am till 3:00 pm There is a fee.
- The 2027 intern class is almost full, and there is already a waiting list.

Announcements from Members

- Judith Reives announced that on the Atlanta Botanical Garden website, someone is speaking on the wildlife value of natives.

The Business Meeting was adjourned at 10:16

Immediately following the business meeting was the PLANT SWAP led by Hanna Beres.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 am.

ATTEST BY:

Jennye McCreary

Jennye McCreary, Secretary

Katherine E. Ennis

Katherine Ennis, President