Jefferson County Master Gardeners Association, Inc.

Members Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2025/ Auditorium / Birmingham Botanical Gardens / 2612 Lane Park Road, Birmingham AL 35223

The educational Program began at 11:00 AM

- A presentation from Jason Powell - Horticulturalist and Owner of Petals from the Past on the subject of "Plants for Winter Interest"

The Business Meeting was called to order at 10:50 AM by President, Katherine Ennis.

First Order of Business - Approval of Minutes of November 12, 2024 Member Meeting - Katherine Ennis.

- There were no minutes from December 2024 to approve so the meeting moved forward.

Second Order of Business - Financial Report for 2024 - Skip Craig.

- It was stated that the reading of this report would cease being read monthly unless a member has an issue with the budget.

Regions Checking Account Ending Balance (12/24/2024)
$14,774.82

Regions MM Account Operating Reserve Balance (12/20/2024)	**$12,629.71**
Regions MM Account Grant Balance (12/20/2024)	**$ 6,529.59**
Regions Certificate of Deposit reinvested, matures 7/15/2025	**$15,819.85**
TOTAL ASSETS	**$49,753.97**
Current Liabilities (including Intern Projects/O'Rear Fund, AMGA Dues) (12/24/2024)	**($ 9,830.25)**
NET ASSETS	**$39,923.72**

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Third Order of Business - Presidents Announcements - Katherine Ennis

- Everyone must sign the MOU (Memo of Understanding) by January 31, 2025 If not signed you will not be able to enter your hours after the above date. The deadline for entering your hours for 2024 was extended until January 16.
- AMGA membership cards were provided at the table in the back.
- AMGA conference was announced to be in Prattville, AL on April 3-5.
- Board meetings have been changed to the last Tuesdays of each month. All board members and Past President recognized
- Updates to contact information and pictures on the members' profiles in the acesagmg.site directory were requested.
- A date for a New Member Orientation was set for February 18th; location TBD.
- The new Vice President and President will be meeting with Committee Chairs soon.

Fourth Order of Business - Vice President's Report - Judith Rives

- February meeting is the Reach for the Stars program/lunch with guest speaker Dr. Lane, who is head of the Horticulture Dept at AU.
- March, May, and October meetings of 2025 will be held at Aldridge Gardens. Check Roots and Shoots for confirmation of each month's meeting location.
- April will be a walk and talk at the BBG with an herbalist
- Other meeting topics include Forest bathing, the Great Pollinator Census, monarch butterflies and their milkweed food.
- The plant swap will change its date from May. The date is yet to be determined.
- Each of the volunteer garden sites will be highlighted each month
- A suggestion of help breaking a meeting into service hours and educational hours was requested.
- AMGA advisory council will meet the first Tuesday per quarter at Petals From The Past

Fifth Order of Business - Announcement - Community Service - Amy Weis

- Vickie Jones will chair the Community Service Committee for 2025. Please check the community service spreadsheet and give feedback on the usefulness of the spreadsheet.

Sixth Order of Business - Announcement - Bethany O'Rear

- The Great Pollinator Census was discussed which will be held August 22 and 23.
- Juliet Easlick was announced as the new administrative assistant to the extension section of Master Gardeners.

- The 2025 Master Gardener class was announced as 40 participants who will meet at the BBG. The lab portion of their studies were planned and facilitated by veteran master gardeners.
- The name tags for interns will be bright yellow so they can be easily identified.
- A volunteer “fair” will be held on February 5th to allow each volunteer opportunity to exhibit their particulars.
- This years’ intern project will be at Arlington House on raised beds.

Seventh Order of Business - Announcement - Archives - Missy Norris

- Missy described her role in collecting and archiving past Master Gardener history. She requested any pictures, articles,, and such for posterity.

Eighth Order of Business - Announcement - Volunteer Garden Highlight - Juliet Eastlick

- Juliet presented the Lovelady Center as one of the volunteer opportunities

Ninth Order of Business - Fundraising & Help Line - Susan McNamara

- Susan reported the total sales of our bulb fundraiser was $489.00 and the fall sale was $1298.00 for a total sales of $1787.00. Other ideas are requested.
- Helpline volunteers were requested. Thursday afternoons may be added to the Jefferson County slot within the state Help Line.

Tenth Order of Business - Hospitality - Katherine Ennis

- Reminder that the February meeting of Reach for The Stars Banquet is a potluck event. Sign-up is in the Roots and Shoots newsletter as well as on the website under members area
- Dues are past due

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.

ATTEST BY:

Jennye McCreary

Jennye McCreary, Secretary

Katherine Ennis, President