

Minutes February 10, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President Pat Farmer.

She introduced interns from the 2015 Master Gardener class. They were Ira Jones, Kimberly Lyn, Michele Thomas, Katie Moon, Karen Giles, Jerry Giles, Janis Wilson, and Elizabeth Byrd. She recognized guests in attendance. They were Mack Gothard, Joyce McDaniel, and Elizabeth Byrd. She welcomed Ann Baker who has been absent for a while.

Margaret Ennis, secretary, asked that a motion be made to accept the minutes as posted on the web site. A motion to accept was made by Harriet Jackson with a second by Lanell Baker. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

Steve McAnally gave the January 2014 Treasurer's Report.

Beginning Balance	\$3854.45
Total Deposits and credits	83.00
Total Checks and payments	386.27
Cleared balance	3468.18
Uncleared transactions (1)	36.00
New Transactions (2 checks)	99.42
Ending Balance	3332.76

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented was made by Jackie Hickman and seconded by Alice Broome. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

New Business

Arbor Day – Ann Baker said Arbor Day tree distribution will be held February 24, 2014, beginning at 8:30 am at Clanton City Hall and volunteers need to be there before that time. A variety of trees will be given away and at least four volunteers are needed to help. She discussed method of distribution and asked that those who could help, tell her.

February birthdays are Steve McAnally, Robert Whatley, and Sue Webb. President Farmer and the members wished them a happy birthday,

President Farmer said the Jemison Library Fairy Tale program will be April 24, 2015 and we will be helping. More information will follow.

Information regarding annual MGA conference in Cullman was available on the back table. Each county association is to take a silent auction item. It has been decided that our club will take a basket filled with garden related items that look nice in a basket, as well as items relating to Chilton County. These items may be taken to the Extension Office for pick up. These items are needed before the March meeting.

President Farmer said that September 15, 2015, has been set for the Fall Conference. This is a definite date.** It will be held at Jefferson State in the Chilton County

Performing Arts Center. Set up will be done on the 14th. A steering committee will meet and break out into different committees to work in specific areas. (Men to direct traffic, decorations, registration, etc.) Many people are needed to help. This will be an item of discussion at every meeting.

The Clanton Water Fest will be March 13 at Jeff State. Peggy Harris said that many volunteers are needed. The main thing volunteers are needed for is to be available to answer questions and help with traffic flow. E-mails will be sent with further directions.

Door prizes were awarded to Harriet Jackson, Margaret Goolsby, and Janis Wilson.

Dianne Clapp reported that she sent four get well cards (Katie Moon, Lamar Giles, Imogene Bresse, Sarah Saunders) and two sympathy cards. Wayne Freeman gave an update on Charlotte Word's condition. Her progress is very slow. She would appreciate cards from the members.

Lanell Baker said they need people to sign up to work the Help Line. It will begin March 26, is every Wednesday, and ends September 24. Interns are required to work one time with a Master Gardener and then then they can work together their second time. They have been asked to sign up through April or May. The Help Line is every Thursday. Interns have to work the first

Sondra reported they were going to the Demo Garden after the meeting to put the primer on the metal gable for the shade area. The next step will be to concrete in and do the steel casing.

Rick Miller said he has discussed fig and grapevine cutting with Jim Pitts. Since conditions were less than favorable last year he has asked Jim to delay a cutting to warmer weather. He said the grape vines need to be pruned by mid-February—possibly next week, if weather permits. Will start around 12:30 in the afternoon and work in teams. An e-mail will be sent out with details.

Joan McGriff presented the program discussing Resource Volunteer Opportunities for Master Gardeners working with 4-H and Extension Programs. She first introduced herself and told of her background, leading up to this present position with the Extension Service. She gave a hand out, listing opportunities, and then discussed many of them in detail. Many of these opportunities require no specialized training. Some opportunities require a very simple training. She has 27 regular 4-H members who meet at the Extension Office every Tuesday. She is always looking for fun and informative activities for them and welcomes input of ideas as well as help in conducting the sessions. There are other 4-H activities which need volunteer service, such as beef cook-off. There are many Extension activities which are available for volunteer service. It is very rewarding to be of service in all these areas. Jo Walters is planning a Junior Master Gardener group in Verbena and needs help. She will let us know details, by e-mail, of the many opportunities available.

Skip Coulter talked about his experiences in working with Joan's 4-H group in developing public speaking skills. They participated in debates with debate teams from other areas and performed quite well.

Bill Hairrell told of a group of parents and children who had never seen plants growing. They saw plants growing, picked some beans, and then ate some of them.

Mark McMinn, assistant police chief of Jemison, addressed the group telling about the Citizen's Academy which will begin tonight and will meet every Tuesday at 6 pm for 10 weeks. It is an informational program, set up to educate citizens about the work of the police department. Beginning age limit is 16. He urged members to become participants in the class.

Tricia Williams said star awards will be given at the next meeting. Members receiving new stars should bring current stars to the meeting. She said that logging of volunteer hours on the computer may be a problem for some because of some computer glitch. If anyone needs help, get in touch with her.

A table is set up in the back of the room, containing logo items which are for sale. Barbara McAnally will make these available at every meeting.

Steve McAnally said there are some financial reports available through Quick Books that he thinks will be informative to the members, and he plans to present these in the future. It will be helpful in tracing income and expenditures. He used the Demo Garden tourism grant budget as an example. Money coming in will be easily identifiable as well as each expenditure. He will be setting up an account similar to this for each budget. A template will be developed at the next Board meeting for use in setting up budgets.

Jackie Hickman discussed currently planned tours and asked members to sign up for participation in them. One tour is to Wright's Nursery in Plantersville and one tour is to Aldridge Gardens in Hoover. Wright's Nursery is a wholesale outlet for plants and she was not sure whether or not tour participants would be able to purchase items. Aldridge officials said our tour (May 20, 10 am) is at the peak time for hydrangea blooms. Jackie asked that members sign up as soon as possible if they plan to attend these tours.

Jackie also said she has a sign-up sheet in the back for members to list any specialty they have which could be shared with members in a meeting.

Pat announced that paper products for hospitality are paid for by the association, and that things like table decorations are to be taken care of by the hostess for that meeting.

City planting dates have not been established. Linda Turnipseed will check with Marty Martin to establish these.

Mark Gothard discussed some activities of the Chilton County Art Council. Every Saturday in March from 10 to 2 the gallery located at 703 2nd Avenue North will be open. Sunday, March 1, will be open house and a time to meet and greet all the artists represented there. Gourd Crafting will be held March 21.

A brochure on Webinar listings was available on the table in the back.

Lanell requested members sign up for Help Line participation.

Betty brought plastic pots for anyone who would like them.

There being no further business, President Farmer adjourned the meeting.

**Secretary's note: Fall Conference date has been changed to September 9.