

CHILTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2019

Susan Cleckler, president, opened our meeting at 9:40 AM.

Larry Jones led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag and a moment of silence.

Susan welcomed our interns to our meeting. She asked them to stand and introduce themselves. She also welcomed everyone else that was present.

Lanell Baker, secretary, asked for a motion to accept the minutes as posted on our website. Elizabeth York made the motion and seconded by Alice Broome. Motion was approved.

Audrey Giles, treasurer, read the financial statements for the end of the year 2018 and January, 2019. A motion was made to accept these reports as read by Lanell Baker and seconded by Jackie Hickman. The motion was approved.

Susan suggested we have a spring 2020 plant sale as a fund raiser. She suggested that we get the plants out of our own gardens and yards. We can use all sorts of plants: Vegetables, Shrubs, perennials, etc. If some of our members needs help we can help them dig up the plants. Old heirloom plants would be great, plants that you cannot go to the nursery and buy. It was also suggested that this year as they are blooming to take pictures so people will know what they look like. Everyone seemed to be in favor of a plant sale.

Susan told us that Sandra's nursery has given us new flats, inserts and pots that will be stored at the CREC if anyone needs them.

Nelson Wynn, Regional Extension Agent, did a program on lawn maintenance. He covered all types of lawn grasses: Cool season, warm season and draught tolerant. All grass loves the sun so if you have a heavy shaded area he suggested to make a natural area or flower bed under it because grass will not grow well. You need to know the soil Ph of your lawn before you decide what type grass you plant. He covered subjects as watering, at least 1" to 1 1/2" a week, mowing heights, thatch control and aeration of compact lawns and soil. He also suggest the best time for watering is any time before 9:00 AM. If you have irrigation set it to come on in the early morning hours. He went over a fertilization schedule that depends on weather, wear, mowing requirements, labor and equipment available. Do not fertilize after August 15. If we have an early frost it could kill your lawn or heavily damage it. Centipede grass does not require much fertilizer at all. One pound a year is plenty for centipede or you could kill it. A very informative and interesting program.

Alice Broome reported that registration for the AMGA Conference is going well. We have approximately 120 registered already. If you need a registration form today see Alice and she'll get you one.

Jane Mason reported the Water Festival is March 15, 2019. This is a program for all 4th grade students in the county. They are bused to Jeff State Community College and take part in different venues that teach them how to conserve and take care of our water supply. We need volunteers to help with this. You will have to be there by 8:00 AM and it is over by 12:30 PM. We'll also need help on the 14th to get

everything set up. There are 10 people signed up to help but we need at least 25. Please see or call Jane Mason if you can help.

Treasia Bennett is in charge of decorations for the AMGA Conference. She needs galvanized containers for flower arrangements to go on the tables. For the Italian buffet she needs baskets for the buffet table. These need to be small enough to see over so they won't hide anyone sitting at the table. The basket arrangements will be given away as door prizes but you can get your galvanized container back. She is planning on 50 tables, 400 people. This may change according to registration.

We need help with the lunch on March 6 for the intern class. The sign-up sheet is in back.

Lanell Baker explained, mostly to the interns, a little about working the helpline. She explained they had to work two days along with their 50 hours before they could be certified. She also explained they had to work with a certified MG the first time then they could work with one of the interns in their class. She explained that Trisha and Pat will sign them up and explain more about it.

Ask a Master Gardener at Garrison Farms will start April 6 thru May 11. A sign-up sheet will be available soon.

Our Speaker for March will be Edgar Vinson. He is in charge of the fig orchards at the CREC.

The awards ceremony will be at the Little House at the CREC during our March regular meeting.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table for those interested in helping with muscadine pruning.

There being no further comments or business the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Members present: 28
Interns present: 10
Visitors present: 2
Total present: 40