**Coweta County MGEV Business Meeting**

**12 May 2022**

Executive Board in Attendance: Mark Hess, Colleen Stephens, Carol Fuller, and Shanna Campbell.

36 Master Gardeners were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 10:04, followed by the pledge of allegiance and an inspirational message by Sarah Hanson.

The previous business meeting minutes were approved.

**Officer reports**

* President- Mark Hess- Survey to existing MGEVs been sent out inquiring about personal interest in the various committees. Currently 17 responses have been received. Mark also confirmed that we will have a Fall Plant Sale this year.
* President elect- Patty Ellis- no report
* Vice President- Carol Fuller- no report
* Secretary- Shanna Campbell- no report
* Treasurer- Colleen Stephens- The Spring Plant Sale (SPS) was a success. The SPS financials have not been finalized, but profit estimations are in the range of $8,000- $9,000. We are waiting for a few outstanding expenses, primarily propane for the Greenhouse. There were five tanks of propane used. The extension is covering 3 out of the 5 tank fills.
  + Mark clarified that the $2,500 that is paid to the Extension each year, from Greenhouse funds, is utilized for maintenance and operation. The propane charges should be allocated to Spring Plant Sale budget. This will be addressed for the 2023 budget. Also, combining the expenses of Plant Growing Supplies, Plant Sale- Sprint and Plant Sale-Fall will be considered for the 2023 budget.
  + Kathy Olmstead indicated that the check from Soil3 should be arriving and is estimated at ~$3,000

**Committee reports**

* Education- Nancy Coats met with Stephanie to get clarification of Continuing Education(CE) plans for the remainder of the year. There will be two public education programs and continued CE programs after our business meetings.
  + 6 CE hours are needed for each MGEV, each year. Please log these in MGLOG.
    - 7/14 Deberah Williams will present on Herbs
    - 9/8 Mark Hess will present on soil preparation
    - 10/10 CR Phillips will present on fall planting and pruning
  + There will be a public education class on Landscaping with a Septic System, presented by Nancy Coats (possibly in July, the presentation is being fine tuned)
  + Gardening 101 will presented this Fall by Dale Senko
  + There are now 4 members of the Education committee. Nancy Coats, Nan Van Patten, CR Phillips and Cathy LeBar. There is an open invitation for any MGEVs to join the committee.
* BYA-Allen Summerlin stated the programs are going well and there has been good attendance. An informal poll at the last BYA indicated we have a good mix of MGEVs in attendance and community members.
  + ~200 people attend BYAs. 75 of those people regularly attend
  + The last six months there has been no external advertising of the BYA events and it has not impacted attendance.
  + June- Sarah Henderson presenting
  + July- The Horticulture Director from Callaway Gardens will Present
  + The schedule of presenters has changed recently and will continue to be updated
* Speakers Burea- no update
* Media/Publications- Shanna Campbell stated that Patty Ellis is providing excellent content for the Facebook Page. We continue to see good community involvement to the page. If you haven’t checked out the Facebook Page, please do.
  + Our Facebook Page name: Coweta County Master Gardener Extension Volunteers
  + The Extension office’s Facebook Page: UGA Extension Coweta County
  + The 4H Facebook Page: Coweta County 4-H UGA Extension
* Market Day- no update
* Nature Trail- Per Audrey Harrelson stated that the prison crew has been cutting back, as needed, on the trail. The committee continues to meet for 2 hour sessions (you do not have to stay the entire time). They are weeding and addressing invasives
* Hospitality- no update
* Demonstration Garden- Kathy Olmstead reported the garden is in full bloom and beautiful and everyone should go see it.
  + The garden was transformed through much hard work. (Fabric to address weeds, cardboard, mulch, beds being bult, soil amendments and preparation, road trips for plants.)
  + The Boys and Girls club were the first to attend a program on site and it was a great success.
* Greenhouse- The hardwood cuttings taken in January will be potted up in June. The committee is trying a different approach and prepping soil in advance of the potting up work day. If you have plants at home that would be nice to contribute for the fall plant sale, please consider potting them up now.
  + Plants that will be volunteered to the sale can earn you hours for taking care of the plants, at your home, prior to the fall sale. Mark Hess will inquire what those volunteer hours specifically are and communicate to the group.
* Plant Sale- Kathy Olmstead- The SPS sale was successful. Fall plant sale is tentatively scheduled for October 15th. Approximately 80 plants, that were showing no sign of growth were culled from the greenhouse to eliminate and resources that may be spent on them. There are ~300 plants at the greenhouse and ~300 hardwood cuttings that will be potted up. The first weekend of September there will be a dig to secure additional plants from someone’s home.
* Scholarship- Mark Hess stated there was 5 recipients for a total of $5,500 in scholarship money. $500 was from the Pat Clayton scholarship donation.
* Help Desk- Kathy Olmstead- It has been relatively slow and pretty quiet.
* Sunshine- Sarah Hanson- Sunshine is needed for Sonja Lambeck and Lynn Mathews
* Newsletter- Submissions to Pat Farmer at [patfarmer100@gmail.com](mailto:patfarmer100@gmail.com) by the 24th of each month. Please include any pictures you have, as well as names of people that attended the event, or are pictured.
* Fundraising- Diane Cook- There is a brainstorming meeting on May 18th at 10:00. All MGEVs are invited to attend!
* Boys and Girls Club/4H- Rebecca Gibson- On May 11th there was a salsa party at the Boys and Girls club. Candace Tucker, from Family and consumer Sciences, was in attendance and she led the group in preparing fresh salsa and berry smoothies. This was the conclusion of the spring program.
  + Many MGEVs from the new class have attended the events and are enthusiastic participants.
* Volunteer hours/awards-Patty Ellis- Cathy LeBar received a certificate for completing 100 volunteer hours.
* Garden Tour- Diane Cook- There is an exploratory committee meeting on Tuesday, May 24th at 10:00. All MGEVs are invited to attend.

**Old Business**

* The MGEV Handbook will be completed and available now that Maureen Dwyer is on board to assist.
  + Thank you to Mark Hess and Dale Senko for editing the handbook.

**New Business**

* Introducing Maureen Dwyer our new ANR Program Assistant!
  + Maureen shared with us that she is a lifelong Coweta County resident that attended LaGrange- West GA college. She has been pleasantly surprised to see familiar faces from the community within the MGEVs. Growing up on a farm in Sharpsburg she has no problem pitching in. She asks that all of us please feel free to ask her questions.
  + Stephanie Update- There is a Zoom call at 2:30 5/12. New MG T-shirts production is in progress. Prices are being quoted for Red, Charcoal, and Green

**Upcoming business meeting dates for 2022:**

-Thursday 14 July

-Thursday 8 September

-Thursday 10 November

Meeting adjourned at 10:56

Minutes prepared by Shanna Campbell