

## **Coweta County MGEV Volunteer Meeting January 11th, 2024**

Executive Board in Attendance: Diane Cook, Jennie Adcock, Kathy Olmsted, Chuck Olmsted, Stephanie Odom

Thirty-nine (39) Master Gardeners were in attendance. Stephanie Butcher, Extension Officer, and Dana Selementi, ANR Program Assistant were not present - with the new MGEV class.

The meeting was called to order at 10:02, followed by an inspirational message given by Sonja Lambeck and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Chuck Olmsted.

The previous Volunteer Meeting Minutes from November 2nd, 2023 were approved.

### **Officer reports**

- President- Diane Cook reported the following:
  - The board's main goal this year is to support our committees as much as possible, support the incoming class as well as retain as many existing MGEV's as possible.
  - Will be working with individual committees to get framework "To Do Lists" of what each committee does for ease of transition when MG's change to other Committee's or a new class of MGEVs comes in.
  - Starting a "Social Committee" after we get through with the Spring Plant Sale to come up with some fun outings and other events for the group.
- President Elect- Jennie Adcock – No report.
- Vice President- Kathy Olmsted – No report
- Secretary- Stephanie Odom – No Report
- Treasurer- Chuck Olmsted
  - Reviewed year end statement and financial report for 2023
- Past President – Patty Ellis – Not Present

**Extension Officer** – Stephanie Butcher – Not Present – with new MGEV class at lecture in Fayetteville.

**ANR Program Assistant** – Dana Selementi – Not Present – with new MGEV class at lecture in Fayetteville.

### **Committee reports**

- Ask the MGEV/Market Day – Application has been submitted for Market Day and Patty Ellis will be promoting it online through our social media pages.
- BYA- Great turn out from last meeting. On March 26<sup>th</sup> will be the first Morning Glory of the year.
- Boys and Girls Club – Challenging year due to landscape engineering issue w/city's storm management. Starting with kids next week.
- Communications – Jerry Allen – BYA presentations are on YouTube at no charge. We will not use videos that you have to pay for. Must do BYA closed captioning at the Extension office due to connectivity and security issues which is making it a lengthier process, but they are making progress. <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/general-mills-second-quarter-2024-112506927.html> Demonstration Garden – Kathy Olmsted and Amy Keller – We need a new name that's eye catching for the upcoming statewide MG demo garden. Garden Tour happening in June, meeting in February to decide name. Starting workdays every other week.

- Education- Cathy LeBar – Will give a presentation immediately following our meeting on “Winter Sowing”.
- Landscape Extension Team – Cathy LeBar - Received several donations of pansies and has also raked all the leaves and will be mulching leaves for use at extension landscape.
- FPS/SPS – Kathy Olmsted 94 days until next plant sale, we are on schedule. We will be double checking Stephanie B’s list for any invasive hardwoods, and these species will not be sold at SPS.
- Fundraising – Melanie Landrum - COWETA2024 is the discount code for our Soil3 fundraiser. This gives you a total discount of \$35 off of their cubes and we receive \$15. Must order online. We are lucky The Soil3 grandfathered Coweta County MG into this program, they have discontinued all other fundraising.
- Garden Tour – No report, no Tour planned for this year.
- Greenhouse – Shipment of pots are in, rearranging babies for the hardwood cuttings. Watering team only watering outside 2x a week.
- Help Desk – We continue to have Monday and Friday in person help desk, as well as remote help desk. If you are interested in learning more or getting trained, contact Patty.
- Hospitality – Amy Sharpe – Please keep volunteering those cookies for BYA. Sign up with her if you want to contribute this year.
- Nature Trail – Ed Atkinson – Cleaning up the trail for fire burn on February 5<sup>th</sup>, time tbd. Last clean up and prepare day is January 15<sup>th</sup> 1-3pm. Officer Webb is bringing in equipment for “official” fire break.
- Scholarship – Jennie Adcock – Applications are available online. We are offering 5 scholarships for \$1000. Deadline to apply is March 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Speakers Bureau – Dan Gentry – In person presentations are available, we are working with the Communications Committee to get our Speakers Bureau presentations available on our YouTube channel.
- Sunshine – Sara Hansen – Reminder to please email Sara with any updates of Sunshine needed.
- The New Leaf – Pat Farmer - No report.
- Volunteer Awards – In 2023 we were 5<sup>th</sup> in the state for hours and 4<sup>th</sup> in continuing education. Please remember to log your 2023 volunteer and CE hours in MGLOG by January 31st. Be sure to indicate the year 2023 so it is credited correctly. Cathy LeBar had a total of 1,006 hours in 2023. Congratulations Cathy!

### **Old Business (same as last month)**

- Collen Stephens has put together all the committee information that she has received for the handbook. Patty Ellis plans to update the handbook in early 2024 and have it ready for the new class.

### **New Business**

- The Annual Holiday Party is scheduled for December 18th.
- Be sure to check your emails as there will be a lot of workdays coming up soon.

Next Volunteer meeting will be held March 14, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45AM  
Minutes prepared by Stephanie Odom