

Highland Lakes Master Gardener Association

Minutes for the General Meeting

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

Hybrid meeting from the Burnet AgriLife Auditorium and via Zoom

Call to Order: Terri Winter called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm

Attendance: In person: 49 members, 13 Associates, 3 guests; via Zoom: 14 members

Terri Winter introduced David Waldo who gave a brief slide show presentation on "History of The Garden at Trinity Episcopal Church, Powered by Master Gardeners". His presentation gave an overview on the beginning of The Garden in 2019, how it's progressed and where it's at now. David invited everyone to come and see The Garden and both he and Terri Winter encouraged volunteer participation in this HLMGA project.

Linda Stoneking introduced our speaker:

James Green, presenting "Care and Propagation of Native Trees"

Break: 3:30 pm

Business Meeting: Terri Winter called the meeting to order at 3:55 pm

Terri Winter thanked everyone who brought snacks for the break and reminded everyone that one volunteer hour is earned by each individual contributing snacks.

The January 10, 2023 general meeting minutes were shared and approved as emailed and published on the HLMGA website.

The January 2023 Financial report was shared and approved as emailed and published on the HLMGA website. Jim Woodul spoke about the status of changing bank account to First State Bank in Burnet, the checking has been set up, and savings will be set up by the end of the week.

Recently added Certified members were announced:

Melissa Adams

Pat Bentley

Anelicia Cheney-Campbell

Pat Ivey

Meijen Miller

Mena Rueffer

Don Weber

Julie Griser

Willard Horn shared an email he had received regarding the 2023 Bertram Art & Wine Festival. They are inquiring if HLMGA has anyone interested in speaking at their event about Texas native plants. Willard has the contact information.

Carolyn Crouchet spoke about the VMS (Volunteer Management System) and logging hours correctly. It was recently brought to Terri Winter's attention that HLMGA has had over 347 hours logged as "OTHER" on VMS. This should never happen as there are currently 11 approved projects that volunteer time should be logged under. She also reminded everyone to post hours promptly and not wait until the last minute. If anyone has a question regarding where to post hours, Carolyn asked to please contact her and she will help.

Gail Elgroth also announced that 2023 class interns will be given information at tomorrow's class (2/15/23) on how to sign in on the VMS system, posting hours, etc.

Carolyn Crouchet also gave an update on the Burnet Middle School's upcoming plant sale on Monday, March 6th from 8-4 in the BMS's Greenhouse. The students have been working hard and in one week potted over 4,400 plants to sell. Carolyn reminded everyone to come early, bring cash or check as they are not set up to accept credit cards.

Hank Rominski introduced himself as the "Head Custodian" of King's Garden in Kingsland, and gave a slide show presentation to introduce interns and members who may not have seen the garden. King's Garden is one of HLMGA's projects and has a vegetable garden, a pollinator garden including native and adaptive plants. Their food produce is harvested and given to the Community Distribution Center. They harvest on Wednesdays, and on Thursdays the pantry is open to the public. Volunteering is encouraged and hours are M-W-F, 9-11am.

Terri Winter reminded everyone of the upcoming Green Thumb presentation "Spring Gardening Basics" with Kelly Tarla on Tuesday, March 21st, 2-3pm at Burnet AgriLife Auditorium. This is free and open to the public.

Lida Woodul spoke on the HLMGA Scholarship extending their range for applications. There has been interest in opening the scholarship area to Lampasas county, which would include Lampasas and Lometa high schools as well as home-schooled senior students. Motion was made, seconded and approved to add Lampasas county to the scholarship applicant area. If anyone knows of a high school senior who is planning on taking a college horticultural class please encourage them to apply. Applications must be submitted by April 30, 2023.

Lida also asked for 2 volunteers to help the scholarship committee with reviewing applications, interviewing, etc. Most of this will be done the first two weeks of May. Please contact Lida if you are interested in helping.

Roxanne Dunegan spoke about the upcoming Lawn and Garden Show on March 25 at the Burnet AgriLife building. She will have volunteer sign up available electronically, and the list will also be available at the 3/14 general meeting. All of the vendor booths have been taken, there is now a waiting list. She reminded everyone about the need for silent auction items and asked everyone to please consider submitting items by the next meeting on 3/14, and noted items could also be dropped off at the AgriLife office. Other reminders were to ask local merchants to donate, diverse items are great, this is HLMGA's largest annual fundraiser. The silent auction, booth rental fees, the quilt raffle all are a big part of the fundraising activity. T-shirts will be ordered within the week for volunteers to wear, please email her if you would like to order one. Also, she will be electronically sending out Lawn & Garden Show flyers to make copies and post in neighborhoods, etc. She has advertising starting in March including radio spots, the Daily Tribune, The Picayune and on Facebook.

Terri Winter reminded everyone to send articles, pictures, recipes, etc. to Gail Brayman for The Dig It newsletter.

The next general meeting will be held in the AgriLife auditorium at 2:00pm, Tuesday, March 14, 2023.

Submitted by,

Terri Clark, Co-Secretary