

Los Alamos Master Gardeners Meeting Agenda
March 4, 2021 at 7:00 pm (via Zoom)

Dena Brent called the meeting to order. Coleen Meyer recorded meeting minutes.

Approval of February Minutes – Dena Brent

Corrected: there is no March 9th work party. Motion to approve as corrected: Peggy Reneau; second: Doris Thielemann. Approved.

Treasurer's Report – Laurie Walker

Twenty-one (21) members have paid their dues. Laurie is still collecting dues for 2021. They are \$25 and may be sent to her home address: 305 Donna Ave., White Rock, NM 87547. Current balance is \$6,149.

Carlos said he would like to donate \$5,000 from his programs budget to LAMG. He is under budget because of CoVid-19 restrictions. The group discussed where it may be used, but no decision has been made.

Extension Agent Report – Carlos Valdez

1. The office is still following CoVid-19 protocols and they are alternating their time in the office.

2. Update on 2021 Master Gardener Class – There are 12 paid students and 3 carrying over from the 2020 class that was not held due to the virus. Carlos has decided to postpone the class 1 week to March 15th. People may register late (up to April 2nd) as it will be virtual and they can catch up by watching classes any time. Doris will do some more publicity. NMSU is using Canvas software, which has had some technical issues that contributed to the decision to delay the start of the classes. People who are interested in registering should email Angela at angrada@nusu.edu.

3. New LAMG Lifetime Members are: Bev Cooper and Kok-Heong McNaughton (both for being active, dues-paying members for over 15 years), and Peggy Reneau and Kimberli Tanner (both for their exceptional contributions to LAMG). The group congratulated the new Lifetime Members, and Denise is working on their plaques.

4. Carlos negotiated a 5-year contract with Los Alamos County for the County Extension officer position. Previously it was for a year or 2 at a time.

Demo Garden update

Water come from Ashley Pond system, and we are not sure when it will be turned on. Discussed possibly having the County truck water (like they water medians), but that is not likely. We are on our own, but Carlos will help when he is in the garden.

There are 2 benches that are not getting much use in their current location and should be moved. If anyone has a suggestion for better placement they can talk to Denise or bring it up at a future meeting.

Program:

Peggy Reneau presented "Agastache Alley" - her plans for this area in the demo garden. See attached presentation.

New Business:

Mary Zemach memorial - Kok-Heong

Mary Zemach, a Lifetime LAMG member died February 26, 2021. Her daughter Dorothy wants to make a contribution in her mother's memory. The group brainstormed different ideas including a plaque or permaculture signage near in Casita area. Carlos estimated \$750 for the plaque. The amount of the donation is unknown. Denise will follow up with her daughter.

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Little Valley order - Laurie Hixson

Laurie will coordinate an order for early May delivery. She will download and send out their catalog, then send an email to the group with details. Laurie will look into if Little Valley needs a tax-exempt form, which is taking NM State some weeks to get out.

Reminders:

1. There will be a seed swap at the Los Alamos Cooperative Market on Sunday, March 7th from noon to 4pm.
2. LAMG Plant Sale June 5. If you are starting plants from seed, you need to start soon. Cuttings may be started later.

Next meeting – April 1, 2021 via Zoom

Attendance: Coleen Meyer, Denise George, Dena Brent, Laurie and Bob Walker, Michelle Berkebile, Pallas Papin, Cas Mason, Carlos Valdez, Betsy Comly, Peggy Reneau, Kok-Heong McNaughton, Shari Foley, Judy Magelssen, Laurie Hixson, Vicki Ricketts, Doris Thielemann, Marjorie Selden, Christine Hipp.