

LOS ALAMOS MASTER GARDENERS
Meeting Minutes taken by Coleen Meyer
From meeting on November 2, 2023, at 7:00 pm

Location: Dena Brent's home, 59 La Paloma, White Rock

Program: Planning session for LAMG and Demo Garden 30th anniversary.

Reports

Minutes: Janine motioned to accept minutes; Denise second. Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's report – Laurie Walker

1. The account balance is about \$8,536.73.

Los Alamos County Science Fair – Coleen Meyer

1. The LA Science and Engineering Fair will be Saturday, January 20th. Coleen will be looking for a couple of volunteers, as the date gets closer.
2. Some people may have received notification from the LA Public Schools asking for volunteer judges. They are looking for Regional judges. This is separate from LAMG judging. Anyone who has the time and interest is encouraged to volunteer. (You will not have time to judge for LAMG and Regional categories.)

Extension Agent Report – Carolyn for Angela (not present)

1. The Master Gardener class starts in January. Advertising has begun. Carolyn raised the question about scholarships we might offer for the 2024 MG class. Last year we budgeted for up to 4 scholarships of \$100 each. We awarded one. NMSU charges \$100, so we do collect that from scholarship awardees. They must write a letter asking for the scholarship. Janine motioned to offer up to 4 scholarships this year and requiring the letter from the applicant. Ruth seconded. Motion approved.
2. LAMG volunteer hours are due December 1st. Janine will resend the form. Hours are sent to Angela.

Garden Reports:

LA Demo Garden - Denise

1. There is a Google list that is used for correspondence. There is a membership list on the LAMG on-line page. The latter is password protected. Send changes to Denise. She also has the password.
2. Send updated plant lists to Denise. This is to keep the record of what is in each garden current. She will update the database.
3. The Demo garden has been put to bed for the winter. The water has been turned off. There is still gopher activity.
4. We are interacting with the County about maintenance needs. The pear tree may need to be removed. It is a heritage tree. The plaque will be placed on the entryway arch.

WR Community Garden - Betsy

1. Laurie Hixson has a work party (final season clean-up) scheduled for Saturday Nov. 4th from 9am to noon. Bring your favorite garden tools.

Other Business - Dena

1. The statewide council meets every other month. Dena reported that other counties are very active and have a lot going on. She noted in particular that some other counties are very inclusive with their interns, encouraging them to become MGs after graduation. Everyone agreed it would be a good approach for us to more actively encourage interns to become LAMG members.
2. No state meeting has been planned. No county has volunteered to host. Janine expressed interest in hosting and leading this effort. Judy pointed out Summit Garden Club is hosting the regional garden club conference and since many people are dual members, there may be a reduced amount of volunteers available.

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Program:

1. We discussed the LAMG and Demo Garden 30th anniversary and also ways in which we could be more active and increase interest.
2. Activities suggested were:
 - A plant sale this summer (approved),
 - Garden Fair with activities for children (was 9am to noon last time),
 - A Community Garden tour of the Demo Garden, WR Community Garden, the Unitarian Universalist Church, and the stables,
 - A private garden tour in 2025 (Christine Hipp and Vicki Ricketts leads),
 - Field trips such as to Liddie Martinez's farm, and
 - Workshops/presentations (possible leads in parentheses) such as:
 - a. Pruning roses and fruit trees,
 - b. Straw bale gardens (Alison Grieggs),
 - c. Raised beds (Amy Mashburn),
 - d. Vegetable gardening,
 - e. Rock gardens,
 - f. Bees (Olivia Carril),
 - g. Irrigation (hands-on),
 - h. Composting (Angelica Gurule) and/or vermiculture (worms),
 - i. Irises and bulbs (Liddie Martinez),
 - j. Dahlias,
 - k. Flower arranging,
 - l. Landscape photography (w/LA Photography Club), and
 - m. Penstemons (w/PEEC and Larry Deaven).

LAMG Future Programs

TBD.

Next LAMG meeting

Denise will host the annual holiday party in December. Details to follow.
The next regular meeting of the LAMG will be in February.

Meeting adjourned at about 8:30 pm.

LAMG Attendees: Dena Brent, Betsy Comly, Bev Cooper, Ruth Doyle, Janine Fales, Denise George, Christine Hipp, Judy Hoffman, Carolyn Mangeng, Barbara Mann, KokHeong McNaughton, Coleen Meyer, Vicki Ricketts, Susan, Schauer, and Laurie Walker.