

**The Little Garden Club of Memphis**  
**Membership Meeting**  
**September 7, 2023**  
**Memphis Botanic Garden**  
**Goldsmith Room**

Emily Kay, President, welcomed everyone back. She called on Mary Helen Butler, Memphis Botanic Garden Assistant Director, who introduced Natalie Brashear, our first ever My Big Backyard curator. Mary Helen also announced that Ellen Ogden will be speaking at the Botanic Garden's new Urban Home Garden Speaker Series on September 12.

Emily announced that Yearbooks are available at today's meeting.

Emily informed everyone of some of the activity over the summer at Carpenter Art Garden. In May, a group of volunteers helped out with digging, weeding and planting. Kate Trammell contributed many of the plants from her beautiful garden. Another group of our horticulture pros- Kathy Adams, Lisa Snowden, Kate Trammell, Ruthie Taylor, and Kate Connell- met with CAG to advise them on what to plant for the summer. During CAG's summer camp, Catherine Sikes hosted 2 art classes, and the pieces were part of a student showcase at the David Lusk Art Show. On August 31, EJ Baird hosted a hugely successful ice cream social between the kids at Carpenter Art Garden and the MPD, including SWAT team officers, K-9 officers and their partners, the mounted patrol, the harbor patrol, and the motorcycle unit. Kate Connell announced that there are 4 upcoming opportunities to volunteer at CAG this Fall to help Dennis transplant lettuce, plant garlic, plant sweet peas, and pull tomato plants. Kate will email a Sign-Up Genius to the membership. Emily reported that Kathy Adams, Kate Trammell, and Michelle Dunavant plan to meet with CAG to advise them on what to plant for the Fall.

Tempe Thompson, Membership, proposed the following changes to Section 6 of the Bylaws:

**Section 6: Election of New Members**

1. (1) The Membership Chairman will announce the number of vacancies to the Board. The Board will determine the number of vacancies to be filled. Election of new members will be held in October. The Membership Chairman will have proposal forms available anytime at the request of the proposer ~~or at the September Membership meeting~~ **on or before August 31<sup>st</sup>**. All forms must be returned to the Membership Chairman no later than ~~one week after the September membership meeting~~ **the Tuesday following Labor Day**.
2. (2) *No changes*
3. (3) Each Active Member shall cast a ballot ~~in person by proxy, or by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots must be delivered before the vote is tallied at the election meeting.~~ **by email to the Membership Chairman. Deadline is 5pm the day preceding the October meeting**. Each member may vote for the number of candidates she chooses, not to exceed the number of vacancies.

The reasons for making these changes are 1: every other year we are delayed in scheduling our September meeting until the announcement of the date of Presidents' Council, and 2: the increasing costs and unreliability of the US Postal Service.

Today's proposal is the First Reading of these changes, they will be published in the October issue of Greenlines, and a Second Reading will be made at October's membership meeting followed by a vote.

Lisa Wilder made the motion to accept the proposed changes to the bylaws. Dot Fisher seconded the motion.

Tempe announced that she has membership nomination packets available at today's meeting. Five people have been nominated for membership, and there are 3 spots available.

Courtenay McAllister, Entertainment Co-Chair, announced that our next meeting is October 12. The New Member Party in November will be hosted by Abbie and Duncan Williams.

Mimsie Crump and Michelle Dunavant, Floral Design, announced a hands-on demonstration will be led by our October speaker, Meredith Bishop who will lead participants in creating hand tied bouquets. It will be held in the Water Garden Room at 9:30 before our October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. The fee is \$50 and space is limited to 15 members and your payment is your reservation.

Lucia Crenshaw, Garden History and Design, was planning to document Tempe Thompson's townhouse garden, but the aftermath of last winter's hard freeze put those plans on hold. However, over the summer, the GCA and the Smithsonian announced that they will now accept digital photography. Tempe is searching through pictures taken of her garden before the freeze which will hopefully allow us to push forward with these plans.

Lisa Snowden reported that she and Kate Trammell have been working with the Memphis Botanic Garden on having signs made recognizing the Little Garden Club for planting the cherry trees along Cherry Road. One marker will go outside and another one will be in the main lobby area.

Ginger Collier, Photography, circulated a sign-up sheet to be added to the Photography email list. She also reminded everyone of the 10-Day Photography Challenge and encouraged all of us to participate by taking a picture every day for 10 days.

Emily Kay thanked our hostesses for today's meeting: Corinne Adrian, Kate Connell, Ragan Magness, and Kate Trammell.

Jean Johnston, Programs, introduced our speaker, Kim Halyak, an avid gardener, garden speaker and blogger. She founded the Cooper-Young Garden Club, and in 2016 she founded the Cooper Young Garden Walk. Kim is a strong proponent of city-wide beautification and desires for Memphis to become a Premier Garden Tourist Destination. She presented a slide show of small gardens in Buffalo, NY (the Garden Walk Buffalo) and in Memphis and shared easy tips for our yards and gardens that add instant impact and great curb appeal.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Emily Kay thanked Kim and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Garnett Hutton

