



## **MGSOC Budget Meeting Minutes February 3, 2025**

### **Google Drive Training**

Attendees: E. Lardner, C. Smith, S. Bolle, J. Fromm, D. Foster, B. Petters, A. Koran, J. Bird, C. Roney

Location: Fromm residence 3650 Arcadia Dr, Orchard Lake

Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Treasurer D. Foster reported the MGSOC insurance policies with our annual costs. President E. Lardner discussed the possibility of joining the MMGA to eliminate or reduce our insurance bill. E. Lardner agreed to find out all the details/benefits of joining the MMGA.

D. Foster reported on the annual web site fee.

D. Foster reported on the annual merchandise storage unit fee. (This fee would be eliminated when the merchandise is depleted.) D. Foster and A. Koran raised the question of expanding our merchandise sales by using our logo on new product offerings. E. Lardner asked why we initially planned to discontinue merchandise sales and if it was a valid plan. She offered the idea of a new merchandise team leader and to relocate the storage unit to a more centralized site. B. Peters talked about outlining our financial situation to the general membership.

D. Foster reported on the MGSOC general meeting speaker fees and the annual contract fee to Rochester Community House. (C. Smith is looking at the Troy community center as a potential meeting place for our MGSOC general meetings.)

D. foster reported on the Bowers Farm budget.

There was a discussion on ways to reduce the costs of the MGSOC conference, including potentially increasing the ticket price in the future. B. Peters talked about the 2025 conference budget.

E. Lardner led a discussion on expanding the MGSOC membership (she will contacting them soon). She outlined how the Macomb County Master Gardner Association offers membership to include alumni membership etc. J. Fromm bought up C. Smith's concerns with changing the membership requirements and E. Lardner responded that she feels that extended memberships would be better than guests because they would have a stake in the group. A. Koran noted that we could increase the guest fee in the future to offset the benefit of membership. E. Lardner would like to take this idea and present it to the general membership.



E. Lardner talked about the Gardner's Gala (year-end silent auction).

C. Roney brought up cookbook sales.

J. Fromm talked about grants and scholarships. E. Lardner suggested we give two grants this year for \$300.00 each, \$600.00 in total. J. Fromm will send E. Lardner the application dates.

E. Lardner will follow up with C. Smith regarding contacting prior MGSOC members.

Required hours: 3