

Botanical Garden Committee Meeting March 30, 2015

In attendance were Amanda Kiel, Merry McBarb, Ellie Bierman, Marianne Bell, Fred Mina, Sam Marshall and Maryann Horgan

Amanda Kiel took group outside and showed them her ideas for the gardens along the Boardwalk and berm. She plans to use annuals and perennials to make a year-long show of color. The plants will come from the propagation class efforts in the greenhouse and by advertising for 'pass-along' plants from the members. Forsythia will be moved from under Live Oak and put in the sun of her garden. The yucca from corner of entrance (under the Live Oak) will be moved to garden bed with palms. She hopes to find an old bee hive to be a focal point in her pollinator garden. Work times will be publicized to invite membership to help.

Ellie Bierman consulted with David Pike of Witherspoon Rose Cultures and now has a plan of how to start caring for the rose bed in front of Bldg. F. Pruning, fertilizing and mulching will be first order of business and then a plan will develop for adding roses. An entry arbor with seats on the sides is envisioned for an entry to pathway and fountain in the middle of the rose beds. Merry McBarb has volunteered to work on corner of rose bed under a crape myrtle. Three low spreading yews will be moved to her space. Ellie plans to publicize her work days.

Marianne Bell and Maryann Horgan have drawn up a design for a shade garden of traditional southern plants. First orders after approval of project, will be through the MG pre-plant sale. A circular bench design and a wooden tuteur have been forwarded to Fred Mina to see if he can make them. Work days will be scheduled for the membership to help.

It was suggested that Maryann contact Charen and Dan Fink and see if they would like to fill the Ability Box garden in front of building.