

Call To Order 1:15, Event Room Hobby Building

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of New Officers

- President: Jim Weaver
- Vice President: Chuck Bonner
- Treasurer: Janet Dugre
- Secretary: Mike Zeller

Minutes of the Pervious Meeting

The price of a single pail of compost was corrected to \$3 from #4. The minutes were approved with the correction.

Treasures Report

The Treasures report was read and accepted.

ECO GARDNERS TREASURY ACCOUNT			
12/1/2025			
Opening Balance			\$4,559.45
Deposits/Dues returned	\$75.00		\$4,484.45
Expenditures - Host Rocket	\$132.76		\$4,351.69
Dues Collected		\$375.00	\$4,726.69
Reserve for plot Deposits	\$2,000.00		
NET CASH 12/31/25			\$2,726.69

Old Business

Bees: OTOW has approved the placement of Bee hives in a 10x10 fenced enclosure. Two hives will be supported. A kit for fencing the hives is available for \$178,47. A motion was made and seconded to approve the expense for the fencing. The motion passed.

There was discussion regarding the other expenses associated with maintaining hives. At present, these expenses are being born by our member **apiculturist**.

Gates: Please make sure you open both sides of the gates when entering with a golf cart. Please double check that there are no members present in the garden before locking the gates.

Active Gardening: The president reminded the membership that according to club by-laws, all plots must be maintained and actively gardened except for the months of **June**, July and August. If you have health issues that temporarily interfere with gardening, contact the board and accommodations will be made.

Dues: The treasurer is collecting club dues. Dues are \$25.00. Cash or a check written to Janet Dugre are appreciated.

New Business

Seed Swap: The club will have a seed swap at the end of the next meeting. February 16, 2026.

484 Nursery: A new nursery is available in town. Closer than Bob Wine. The address is

12450 SW HWY 484, Dunnellon, FL 34432, Tel 352-897-4491

They will provide a 10% discount to ECO Garden members if you have your ECO Garden membership card. Cards are available from the Treasurer.

Missing Tools: 2 shovels, cleaning screens, Red Wheel Barrow. If you borrowed these tools please return them.

Tiller: A battery operated roto-tiller (with battery) is available in the locker behind the compost bin.

Florida Master Gardeners: The Florida master gardeners will be at the Home and Garden Expo at WEC. These shows are 3 or 4 times a year.

OTOW Meeting:

OTOW Garden Meet and Greet is being held January 27 at 10am in the Event Room of the Hobby Building and the Eco Gardeners Club has been invited to attend. This is hosted by staff at OTOW and a letter was sent to the Community Gardeners along with the Community Gardens Policy & Procedures.

Since we are a club and not part of the Community Garden, the President and a Board Member are meeting with the Compliance Group to discern the relationship between the OTOW managed gardens and the Eco Gardeners Club.

Remarks

The next meeting will be on February 16th at 1:15 in the Event room of the Hobby building.

A short presentation was given on starting seeds.

Concerns were expressed re the high water pressure in the garden. The recommendation is that after a freeze it is best to open the spigot slowly to prevent problems.

Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned at about 2:00.