

Sugar Land Garden Club Minutes  
Board Meeting  
May 13, 2025

**Members in attendance were:** Linda Barbone, Deborah Birge, Laura Cairns, Gay Chavez, Gretchen Cockerill, Donna-Jean Dyer, Denise Harper, Melody Lindley, Lynette McQueen, Leslie Niemand, Karen Putney, Robin Rettew, Donna Romaine, Carrie Sample, Melissa Schmidt, Brenda Webb, Carol Wilson, and Betty Baber, for a total number of 18.

The meeting was called to order by Deborah Birge at 10:02 A.M. The meeting was held at the home of Robin Rettew with Deborah Birge as co-hostess.

**Secretary – Betty Baber:** The minutes were presented. Motion made by Carrie Sample to accept minutes as presented; motion carried.

**Treasurer – Linda Barbone:** Reminded everyone that the end of the fiscal year is approaching so get any reimbursement requests to her. Also, if there are any budget needs, let her know before the scheduled budget review meeting. A question was raised as to how workshop funds are handled. Workshops are not financed by any funds from the budget and any excess funds received from workshops end up in scholarship fund. After various committees made comments about their needs, Deborah advised that any committee seeking a change in fund amount should send an email to Treasurer so issue could be reviewed and addressed by Budget Committee. The report was accepted for filing and review at end of year.

**First Vice President Programs – Melody Lindley:** All speakers for next club year have been lined up.

**Second Vice President Data Base – Karen Putney:** Introduced the incoming new VP, Melissa Schmidt. Renewals are coming in and out of 153 members, 49 have renewed to date.

**Second Vice President Name Tags/Door Prizes – Gay Chavez:** She and Sandy Smith have scheduled a new member gathering for Tuesday, September 2 at 10:00 am.

**Committee Reports:**

**Arbor Day – Leslie Niemand:** Nothing to report.

**Corresponding Secretary – Jaye Talus (absent):** Get well cards went out to Alice Zothner and Gordon. A thank you card was sent to Ed Scanlon. Gay Chavez requested a card for Anna Sands' daughter who is facing brain surgery.

**Equipment (absent):** Concerns expressed about performance of equipment, i.e. the squeals. Suggestions that equipment personnel arrive earlier to set up equipment or replace batteries every time has been ignored. Suggestions made to also work with the speaker/presenter as to how equipment works and where to point the "clicker". Should plan on purchase of a new computer for next year.

**Facebook – Carrie Dolezal/Terri Hurley (both absent):** Members only page has been visited 30 times. Deborah needs a listing of all purged members.

**Field Trips – Alice Zothner (absent):** Next field trip is scheduled for May 29 and is going to Loris Garrett and Sandy Roberts American Daylily Society Display Gardens in Lake Jackson.

**Fundraisers:**

**Bulb Sale – Mary Allen (absent):** Meeting is coming up near the end of this month.

**Silent Auction – Donna-Jean Dyer:** No report

**Habitat for Humanity -- Stephanie Flatt:** Dedication scheduled at 210 Hope Lane on May 13 at 2:00 PM. Trying to create a new relationship for next year.

**Hospitality—Brenda Webb:** A big thank you to Brenda for her years of past service. New chair is Linda Rhodes and assistant Betty Baber. Thanks went out also to all those who were host chairs and those who brought food.

**Master Gardener Representative – Leslie Niemand:** Had a successful Butterfly Celebration with over 400 people. Two classes are being held through August. Go online (FBMG.org) to see classes, schedules and to register. Summer camp is coming up.

**Newsletter – Cindy Smith (absent):** Denise Harper is the new editor. Any articles, send to Denise. Denise has option whether to send out a newsletter in summer or wait to send first one in September; she will inform Deborah of her chosen option.

**Plant Swap – Donna Romaine:** Next plant swap is Tuesday, June 3, 9 a.m. at Sugar Land City Park on Eldridge. Betty Baker expressed an interest in a having lemonade stand set up by/for a charitable organization she's involved with.

**Publicity – Laura Cairns:** Lazy Gardener limits articles to plants and gardening only.

**Scholarships – Donna-Jean Dyer:** No report. Scholarships have gone out and everyone has received checks.

**Scrapbook – Carrie Sample:** Deborah is still looking for someone to take over the Scrapbook.

**Social – Lynette McQueen:** Lynette is stepping down as chair but will continue on committee and Sharon Harry is new chair. Just a reminder that the social is May 20 at a cost of \$31.00. Doors open at 11:00 am. 59 are currently signed up to attend. Have more raffle items this year than previous years.

**Sponsorships—:** No new chair; have received some checks.

**Website – Terry Hurley (absent):** 139 visitors which is a 10% increase; most visits are from searches through Goggle; 415 views of individual pages; one new subscriber to blog. There is a possibility we may get a SLGC app; a decision will be made over the summer.

**Workshops – Carol Wilson/Gretchen Cockerill:** There is no workshop scheduled for September or October; next workshop is in November 2 weeks before Thanksgiving and will be turkey. December will be a “jewelry” Christmas tree; January will be Care of Garden Tools; March is succulent garden; April is quilling. There will be no workshop for May. They will be reserving date for next year with T. E. Harmann Center.

**Yearbook/Directory – Robin Rettew:** July 1 is deadline to submit items/information for the Directory. This is the last year we will be using current publisher

## **Old Business:**

Financial Review will be in late June or July.

Budget Meeting is May 16.

SL Eldridge Library is looking for managers and workers to create and maintain a pollinator garden. After some discussion, the consensus was that the club has no interest due to previous issues when it was tried with this organization.

**New Business:**

The next meeting is June 10 with Donna-Jean Dyer as hostess and Jaye Talus as co-hostess.

Carrie Sample made a motion to adjourn; meeting was adjourned at 11:38 A. M.

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Betty Baber, Secretary

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Deborah Birge, President

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_