

Sugar Land Garden Club Minutes
Board Meeting
October 8, 2024

Members in attendance were: Linda Barbone, Deborah Birge, Terri Hurley, Melody Lindley, Lynette McQueen, Leslie Niemand, Karen Putney, Robin Rettew, Linda Rhodes, Donna Romaine, Carrie Sample, Cindy Smith, Jaye Talus, Beverly Williams, Carol Wilson, and Betty Baber.

The meeting was called to order by Deborah Birge at 10:00 A.M. The meeting was held at the home of Cindy Smith with Linda Barbone as co-hostess.

Secretary – Betty Baber: The minutes were present and required correction under Social Committee. To be amended.

Treasurer – Linda Barbone: The report was accepted for filing and review at end of year.

First Vice President Programs – Melody Lindley: Provided a list of speakers for the coming year, with more specific information on upcoming meeting speaker.

Second Vice President Data Base – Karen Putney: 132 members to date; still have 23 that have not renewed, some of which are not responding to inquiries regarding renewal. Having difficulty collecting information for individuals paying by PayPal. Also, any memberships including the extra \$20 is not being included in their payment. There is also an issue that only \$35 of the \$36 payment is being received as \$1 is going to PayPal as their fee. Robin Rettew will revise the new membership form to include a total payment due line. Software also needs to be changed. Additionally, when members want to pay at the meeting, most used payment method is credit card so there needs to be an officer and a 'swiper' sitting in close proximity to this table.

Second Vice President Door Prizes – Gay Chavez: Door prizes are progressing nicely; everyone loved the idea of one door prize being 1st option at the swap table.

Committee Reports:

Arbor Day – Leslie Niemand: Leslie contacted Terri Hurley as suggested at last meeting. Terri coordinated purchase, negotiated price and has a work day scheduled to plant. The Club will be donating 2 10-gallon possumhaw hollies at a cost of \$200 for both (as opposed to \$150 each). It is going to Cullinan Park in the Bird Viewing Area.

Brookwood – Beverly Williams: November 20 is the next date and she will have a sign-up sheet at the next meeting.

Corresponding Secretary – Jaye Talus: Received thank you cards from Alice Liou and Shirley Reese; Sent Get Well cards to Linda Rhodes and Marsha Legaux. Will be sending card to JoBeth Moore regarding her husband's upcoming surgery. Requested that those advising of cards that need to be sent, please provide enough information to enable Jaye to write a nice note in the card.

Field Trips – Alice Zothner: Had 21 individuals sign up for Brennans; 26 individuals went on the Post Skylawn trip.

Fundraisers:

Bulb Sale – Denise Harper: In Denise's absence, Robin Rettew reported bulb sale project is close to budgeted amount. Also, there are few lilies left.

Habitat for Humanity – Stephanie Flatt: In Stephanie's absence, Linda Rhodes reported the Habitat has received permit for the house and are awaiting a start date. Linda and Stephanie are working on 3 things: 1) questionnaire for the homeowners, including a preamble 2) putting together a committee to develop ideas as to what would be

workable/doable for the club and the homeowner 3) will have a sign-up table at next meeting for this committee. There was continued discussion of possible questions/issues, including the alternative of doing what has been done previously, a 5-gallon bucket with some basic supplies.

Master Gardener Representative – Leslie Niemand: The vegetable sale is scheduled for October 12 from 9:00 to 12:00 or sold out, (arrive early). A major positive for purchasing from MG is that the plants available are specifically qualified for this area. Landscape for Success will start in January and Grow Your Own is booked but no date.

Newsletter – Cindy Smith: Always looking for new articles.

Plant Swap – Donna Romaine/Debe Fannin: Last meet was great with lots of participation, including 2 new members who donated 2 flats of cucumbers; had to add a 3rd table. Beverly Williams will be helping at next plant swap.

Scrapbook – Carrie Sample: If you have an event, please take a group picture (and any other interesting pictures) and email to her for the scrapbook (including names of those in the picture). Do not send via phone. Discussion arose over posting pictures and names on Facebook. Suggestion made to have place on membership form to indicate a person's desire on this issue but tracking would be an issue. Also, Carol Wilson will add place on worksheet sign-ups for this purpose.

Social – Lynette McQueen: The luncheon dates are 12/17/24 and 5/20/25 at a cost of \$31.00. Will start sign-up and collecting money at November meeting.

Website – Terri Hurley: Lots of changes over the summer to Word Press; \$170 for 2 years; great security; new "members only" tab. Includes a lot of information from the member book; including pictorial membership listing, officers. The members only tab is password access. There was some discussion as to what the password should be going forward. Additionally, to get new members added on website, send information to Robin (for directory) and she can forward to Terri to post in website. Website has had 200 visits.

Workshops – Carol Wilson: Had 12 people to do the Zentangle pumpkin and they all turned out beautifully. Thank you to Lynette McQueen for teaching the workshop. The next workshop will be a "Giving Thanks Tree."

Old Business: Brazos Bend State Park sent a thank you card for the club donation. They are looking for an alligator skin to add to a program allowing kids to feel different animals.

Per discussions in October 2023 re opening a 2nd account, Linda Barbone wants to amend financial guidelines to address CD issue. Deborah Birge wants to establish a committee to discuss and evaluate pros and cons of different options and then present these details to the Board with recommendations. Deborah requested Robin Rettew to establish this committee. In the meantime, action needs to be taken with the CD which will be up for renewal imminently.

Alice Zothner made a motion to roll over the CD for 3 more months; Carol Wilson seconded. Motion carried.

New Business: Next board meeting date is November 12 with Carol Wilson hosting and Melody Lindley co-hosting.

Carrie Sample made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded. The meeting adjourned at 11:17 A.M.

Date: _____

Betty Baber, Secretary

Date: _____

Deborah Birge, President