

Sugar Land Garden Club Minutes  
Board Meeting  
April 8, 2025

**Members in attendance were:** Linda Barbone, Deborah Birge, Laura Cairns, Gay Chavez, Donna-Jean Dyer, Melody Lindley, Leslie Niemand, Karen Putney, Linda Rhodes, Donna Romaine, Carrie Sample, Sandy Smith, Jaye Talus, Beverly Willilams, Carol Wilson, Alice Zothner, and Betty Baber, for a total number of 17.

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

**Secretary – Betty Baber:** The minutes were presented and approved by acclamation.

**Treasurer – Linda Barbone:** The silent auction brought in a total of \$4,493, which included \$146 in donations and \$360 from the raffle. The club received a Thank You from Stephen F. Austin for the scholarships. There was discussion as to whether a donation could be designated to go to the Scholarship Fund. The report was accepted for filing and review at end of year.

**First Vice President Programs – Melody Lindley:** Christina Alapat, a FBMG, will be doing a presentation on butterfly gardening. All speakers for next club year have been lined up.

**Second Vice President Data Base – Karen Putney:** We have 2 new members for a total of 151 members. Robin Rettew is editing the membership form which will be ready for the April meeting and members can sign up and pay dues.

**Second Vice President Door Prizes – Gay Chavez:** Door prizes are ready.

**Second Vice President Blast – Sandy Smith:** There will be no meet and greet for the new members due to lack of interest/responses. There were 18 responses out of the 26 new members and only 3 could attend. There was discussion of options to improve attendance.

**Committee Reports:**

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

**Brookwood – Beverly Williams:** Had 5 people volunteer for the April 3 volunteer date.

**Corresponding Secretary – Jaye Talus:** Sent out one get well card to Susan Frank.

**Facebook – Carrie Dolezal/Terri Hurley (absent):** The members only page now has 34 members.

**Field Trips – Alice Zothner:** Next field trip is to the gardens at Texas A&M; Karen Putney is in charge. One problem they are having is that people are signing up for the trips but then aren't showing up.

**Fundraisers:**

**Silent Auction – Donna-Jean Dyer:** The auction went great; it was a true club effort. Raised just shy of \$2500. Carol Wilson thanked those who brought extra food. Karen Putney wants to create a database indicating which items sold well, which ones didn't sell; who bought the most, who donated the most, etc.

**Habitat for Humanity -- Stephanie Flatt (absent):** Linda Rhodes advised everything is waiting on dedication.

**Master Gardener Representative – Leslie Niemand:** They are preparing a sheet of available classes for the meeting. Saturday, May 3 from 9 to 12 is the Butterfly Celebration at the MG gardens on Band Rd.

**Plant Swap – Donna Romaine/Debe Fannin:** Had a good turn out; the next plant swap is Tuesday, June 3, 9 a.m. at Sugar Land City Park on Eldridge..

**Publicity – Laura Cairns:** Lazy Gardener limits articles to plants only due to limited space. Quail Valley was very appreciative of plants and sent a big thank you to Deborah Birge and Cindy Smith; their sale is April 26 across from the Quail Valley Golf Course.

**Scholarships – Donna-Jean Dyer:** Everything is completed for this year.

**Scrapbook – Carrie Sample:** Need pictures of March and April hostesses. If there are any unique auction donations, please take a picture and submit it. She also needs pictures of the club craft projects and attendees.

**Social – Lynette McQueen (absent):** Just a reminder that the social is May 20 at a cost of \$31.00.

**Workshops – Carol Wilson:** Last workshop had 12 attendees, 80% of which were new faces. Next project for May 6 is a garden post at a cost of \$25. Additionally, she spoke to Barbara Rosenberg regarding “prom” corsages and was advised that it was a mole point as the high school needed only 3.

**Yearbook/Directory – Robin Rettew (absent):** A reminder to start getting your information for the Yearbook ready; it is due by June 15.

Deborah Birge reminded everyone that the May Board meeting will consist of old members and new members so those leaving a position should have notebooks/paperwork ready to hand over to their replacements.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** The financial review board needs 3 members, 2 old members, 1 new, so Deborah is looking for a volunteer who has never done a review. The review is due by September.

The members are:

Donna Romaine (who will chair)  
Karen Putney  
Sandy Smith (as the new member).

Volunteers were also needed for the Budget Committee. The members are:

Leslie Niemand  
Gay Chavez

Next board meeting date is May 13 with Deborah Birge as hostess and Robin Rettew as co-host. Board members will be notified if there is any change in location.

Carrie Sample made a motion to adjourn; meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A. M.

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Betty Baber, Secretary

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Deborah Birge, President

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

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