

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 Williams, 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 mote 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.

Betty Baber, Secretary

Date: _____

Deborah Birge, President

Date: _____