

Sugar Land Garden Club Minutes  
November 11, 2025

**Members in attendance were:** Betty Baber, Deborah Birge, Gay Chavez, Gretchen Cockerill, Donna-Jean Dyer, Sharon Harry, Lynette McQueen, Karen Putney, Robin Rettew, Linda Rhodes, Donna Romaine, Melissa Schmidt, Sandy Smith, Jaye Talus, Beverly Williams, Carol Wilson, and Alice Zothner for a total number of 17.

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

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

**Treasurer – Linda Barbone (absent):** The treasurer's report was sent out by email prior to the board meeting. Year to date total is \$31, 143. The Bulb sale amount will change to reconcile between Mary Allen and Linda when receipts are turned in.

Liability/insurance charges will increase. Current budget is \$600. The cost increased to \$703, a 26.5% increase. Insurance covers guest slip/falls. Discussion. All agree to pay the increased rate.

**First Vice President Programs – Melody Lindley (absent):** Jordan Cunningham from SFA will be our November speaker.

**Second Vice President Data Base – Melissa Schmidt:** As of this date, there are 145 members. She mentioned Cristina Alapat made a \$100 donation. Hospitality was discussed as some members do not select a hospitality month on the membership form nor do they check the \$20 donation box. Melissa will add the member name to the list sent to Linda Rhodes and Linda will assign a hospitality month.

**Second Vice President Name Tags/Door Prizes – Gay Chavez:** Plant raffle and door prizes are ready.

**Second Vice President Emails -- Sandy Smith:** No report.

**Parliamentarian – Alice Zothner:** No report.

**Committee Reports:**

**Arbor Day – Leslie Niemand (absent):** No report.

**Brookwood – Beverly Williams:** Volunteer day is November 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Corresponding Secretary – Jaye Talus:** Cards were sent to Anna Sands (hospitalized) and Roberta Rabin. Jaye was asked to send a card to Barbara Rosenberg who injured her wrist.

**Equipment (absent):** No report.

**Official Facebook – Carrie Dolezal (absent):** No report.

**Members only Facebook – Lynette McQueen:** No report.

**Field Trips – Carrie Sample (absent):** A shopping trip to Tomball is planned. The Fort Bend Museum in Richmond is planned for January.

**Fundraisers:**

**Bulb Sale – Mary Allen (absent):** \$254 was collected at the October meeting for leftover bulb sales.

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

**Habitat for Humanity -- Stephanie Flatt (absent):** A work cleanup is scheduled. It is expected for the 2 new homes to be dedicated in January and February.

**Master Gardener Representative – Leslie Niemand (absent):** February 14th is the fruit tree sale and March is the spring veggie/herb sale.

**Newsletter – Denise Harper (absent):** No report.

**Plant Swap – Donna Romaine:** No report.

**Publicity – Laura Cairns (absent):** No report.

**Scholarships – Donna-Jean Dyer:** No report.

**Scrapbook – Cindy Smith (absent):** No report.

**Social – Sharon Harry :** To date, 32 tickets for the December luncheon have been sold. The menu will be confirmed this week. Lynette is working the raffle items.

**Sponsorships—Robin Rettew:** No report.

**Website – Terry Hurley (absent):** No report.

**Workshops – Carol Wilson:** The December workshop is the jeweled Christmas tree project. Gretchen donated wooden frames which were painted gold and silver. Costume jewelry has been donated. Cost is \$15.

The November turkey centerpiece project went well. Although Barbara Rosenberg was sidelined a bit due to a broken wrist, she was able to lead the group through the process: the turkeys turned out really cute.

No January workshop. The February workshop is free and there is no limit on attendance. Deborah Birge will demonstrate how to clean and care for garden tools.

**Yearbook/Directory – Robin Rettew:** No report.

**Old Business:** The scam is ongoing through emails and texts, most likely BOTS originated. Deborah will write a newsletter article regarding what the scam is trying to solicit and to please ignore emails that appear to be sent from Deborah's email.

**New Business:** A bulb discussion committee wants input for the fall fundraiser. Good ideas encouraged.

There will not be a December board meeting.

The next meeting is January 13, 2026 at either Deborah Birge's or Robin Rettew's home.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Putney, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Birge, President