

Sugar Land Garden Club Minutes
October 14 , 2025

Members in attendance were: Mary Allen, Linda Barbone, Deborah Birge, Gay Chavez, Donna-Jean Dyer, Melody Lindley, Lynette McQueen, Leslie Niemand, Karen Putney, Robin Rettew, Linda Rhodes, Carrie Sample, Melissa Schmidt, Sandy Smith, Jaye Talus, Carol Wilson, Cindy Smith, and Alice Zothner for a total number of 18.

The meeting was called to order by Deborah Birge at 10:00 A.M. The meeting was held at the home of Alice Zothner with Karen Putney as co-hostess.

Secretary – Karen Putney: The minutes were presented. Motion made by Melody Lindley to accept minutes as presented; motion carried.

Treasurer – Linda Barbone: The treasurer's report was sent out by email prior to the board meeting. The bulb costs is reflected in the Bulb Sale category. The treasurer's report was accepted for review.

Hospitality – Linda Rhodes: Linda needed to leave early and was moved to the beginning of the meeting agenda. Linda reported the hospitality budget is underwater by \$100 due to the cost of coffee and the urgent need to purchase a new coffee pot. Linda commented that the September general meeting presented problems. The sink flooded the kitchen. The coffee pot broke. In a pinch, the hot water pot was used to brew coffee. Someone did donate a coffee carafe which helped. Linda Barbone reminded Linda Rhodes that there are additional funds that can be spent from the Membership Dues Hospitality budget category. Deborah asked Linda to keep all receipts and the budget will be evaluated at the end of the garden club year.

First Vice President Programs – Melody Lindley: Dr Amit Dhingra, Texas A&M, will be our speaker.

Second Vice President Data Base – Melissa Schmidt: As of this date, there are 142 members, 18 of which are new members. Robin asked if more directories are needed. Melissa said she has ½ box left so no new directory orders are needed at this time.

Second Vice President Name Tags/Door Prizes – Gay Chavez: No report.

Second Vice President Emails -- Sandy Smith: Sandy stated that 4 new members attended the September new member meet/greet. 2 were no-shows

Parliamentarian – Alice Zothner: No report.

Committee Reports:

Arbor Day – Leslie Niemand: Trees will be planted in the bird viewing area of Cullanan Park. Master Naturalists will choose and plant the trees in early December.

Brookwood – Beverly Williams (absent): Volunteer day is November 19th.

Corresponding Secretary – Jaye Talus: A scholarship donation and sympathy card was sent to Lauren Martin in remembrance of her mother.

Equipment (absent): No report.

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

Members only Facebook – Lynette McQueen: Currently, Facebook has 31 members as 2 were removed. Deborah commented on the nice article submitted for the October newsletter.

Field Trips – Carrie Sample: The Shangri-La field trip was good. Several members chose to drive instead of ride in a van. Robin stated the drivers should be reimbursed for the van charge. Carrie said leftover monies will be shared with the attendees. Carrie asked for feedback for the November shopping field trip. Choices were: Galveston, local Fort Bend, or Tomball. A show of hands indicated Tomball as the favored choice.

Fundraisers:

Bulb Sale – Mary Allen: Mary mentioned Robin was reimbursed \$648 for curcumin. October 25th is the bulb pickup.

Silent Auction – Donna-Jean Dyer: No report

Habitat for Humanity -- Stephanie Flatt (absent): Linda Rhodes reported a committee is formed to help clear the Habitat for Humanity subdivision overgrowth. Progress on the homes is at the drywall stage.

Master Gardener Representative – Leslie Niemand: The Fall Master Gardener sale went well. February is the fruit tree sale and March is the spring veggie sale.

Newsletter – Denise Harper (absent): No report.

Plant Swap – Donna Romaine (absent): No report.

Publicity – Laura Cairns (absent): No report.

Scholarships – Donna-Jean Dyer: No report.

Scrapbook – Cindy Smith: Cindy asked for photos showing people doing something, and to include the date, place and event.

Social – Lynette McQueen: Tickets for the December luncheon will be sold at the October general meeting for \$31.

Sponsorships—Robin Rettew: No report.

Website – Terry Hurley (absent): No report.

Workshops – Carol Wilson: The November 4th workshop will be led by Barbara Rosenberg on how to make a clever turkey centerpiece. The December workshop will make framed, jeweled Christmas trees. Miche Broussard originally agreed to coordinate the December workshop, providing all the supplies, but backed out just after the directory went to print. Carol will buy wooden trees, jewelry and beads, glue, etc.

Yearbook/Directory – Robin Rettew: It was noted that a few of the directory pages are out of order.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Carrie mentioned how some attendees are talking during the presentation, making it hard to hear the speaker. Discussion proceeded on how to politely ask someone to stop talking

The next meeting is November 11 at Gay Chavez’s home with Sandy Smith as co-hostess.

Carrie Sample made a motion to adjourn; meeting was adjourned at 10:5 A.M.

_____ Date: _____
Karen Putney, Secretary

_____ Date: _____
Deborah Birge, President