

Sugar Land Garden Club Minutes
September 9, 2025

Members in attendance were: Mary Allen, Betty Baber, Deborah Birge, Laura Cairns, Gay Chavez, Carrie Dolezal, Sharon Harry, Lynette McQueen, Denise Harper, Karen Putney, Robin Rettew, Donna Romaine, Melissa Schmidt, and Jaye Talus, for a total number of 14.

The meeting was called to order by Deborah Birge at 10:00 A.M. The meeting was held at the home of Robin Rettew, with Deborah Birge as co-hostess.

Secretary – Karen Putney: The minutes were presented. Motion made by Melissa Schmidt 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. Budgets were confirmed. It was announced that the yearbook cost \$918. The treasurer's report was accepted for review.

First Vice President Programs – Melody Lindley (absent): No report.

Second Vice President Data Base – Melissa Schmidt: As of this date, there are 135 members, 10 of which are new members. Deborah mentioned she sends payment info to Linda and Melissa. Melissa was advised to send the new members info to Terri Hurley to be added to the Member Only Tab.

Second Vice President Name Tags/Door Prizes – Gay Chavez: Gay discussed the new member coffee, to be held on Tuesday, September 30th at La Madelaine in Sugar Land. There is space for 5 new members. The private room holds a max of 13 people. New members received the invite flyer via email and a sign up sheet and flyer will be displayed at the September General meeting's membership table.

Second Vice President Emails -- Sandy Smith (absent). No report. Deborah asked if permanent name tags can still be purchased. The answer is yes. There are paper stick-on tags and printed name tags in the magnetic holders available to members. Permanent name tags can be ordered.

Committee Reports:

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

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

Corresponding Secretary – Jaye Talus: A card was sent to Anna Sands as her daughter is very ill and her brother had heart surgery. Other cards were sent: Get Well card to Carol Wilson; Get Well card to Betty Baber; Sympathy card to Laura Martin as well as a donation to the scholarship fund; Get Well cards to Mary Ellen and Ralph Twiss, Get Well card to Linda Rhodes.

Equipment (absent): No report. Deborah mentioned that last year it was suggested a new computer may need to be purchased. She does not think a new computer is needed at this time as the internet is

not used during the meeting. The screeching sound occurs when the volume is too high on the transmitter. Melody will work with the speakers on how to use the remote.

Official Facebook – Carrie Dolezal: No report.

Members only Facebook – Lynette McQueen: Currently, Facebook has 33 members. The Members Only Facebook needs to be promoted more. It was suggested that Lynette write up an article for the October Newsletter.

Field Trips – Carrie Sample (absent): Deborah mentioned the October 7th field trip to Shangri-La in Orange, Texas is scheduled. The gardens are free, but money for the vans will need to be paid at the September meeting. 2 vans are reserved. Additional vans can be added and there is no penalty if the club needs to reduce to 1 van.

Fundraisers:

Bulb Sale – Mary Allen: The bulb sale ends the day of the September General meeting. Order forms and slides will be available.

Silent Auction – Donna-Jean Dyer (absent): No report

Habitat for Humanity -- Stephanie Flatt (absent): No report.

Hospitality—Linda Rhodes (absent)/Betty Baber: The hospitality team is ready for the September meeting.

Master Gardener Representative – Leslie Niemand (absent): No report. There is a FBMG veggie and herb sale scheduled for October.

Newsletter – Denise Harper: Denise is asking for articles, funnies, and photos by the 23rd of the month.

Plant Swap – Donna Romaine: No report.

Publicity – Laura Cairns: No report.

Scholarships – Donna-Jean Dyer (absent): No report.

Scrapbook – Cindy Smith (absent): Deborah announced that Cindy Smith has accepted the position of scrapbook editor.

Social – Sharon Harry: The December social is ready to go at Riverbend Country Club. A sign-up sheet will be at the October general meeting. Deborah will send Zelle payment information to Sharon.

Sponsorships—Robin Rettew: The treasurer's report shows \$1190 in sponsorships.

Website – Terry Hurley (absent): No report.

Workshops – Carol Wilson/Gretchen Cockerill (absent): No report. No workshop in October.

Yearbook/Directory – Robin Rettew: Robin made changes to the directory to cut costs. The directory is now 55 pages vs 80 pages for past directories. All pages are in color. No by-laws, committee descriptions, and past president’s list are included in this year’s directory. This information will be posted on the club website. Also, there is one page devoted to the monthly activities as compared to 2 pages for past directories. Comments and critiques are appreciated.

Old Business:

Financial Review was conducted by Sandy Smith, Karen Putney and Donna Romaine. All documents for the 3 chosen months for review matched to the bank reconciliation. Supporting documents for reimbursements were all accounted for.

New Business: Deborah discussed the email scam that was sent to club members that at first read appears to be official. However, this scam email was not from Deborah’s email. Sandy sent out a blast to the membership describing this scam and to remind everyone to not send payments in the form of gift cards.

The next meeting is October 14th at Alice Zothner’s home with Karen Putney as co-hostess.

Melissa Schmidt made a motion to adjourn; meeting was adjourned at 10:53 A.M.

_____ Date: _____
Karen Putney, Secretary

_____ Date: _____
Deborah Birge, President