

Wellington Garden Club
Members' Meeting
Wellington Community Center
March 6, 2023 @ 9:30am

I. Welcome - Maria Wolfe

- a. A quorum was established
- b. We were asked to silence cell phones
- c. We stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

II. Mary Barbara Alexander introduced our speaker, Danna Bramlett from the Florida Wildlife Corridor.

III. Committee Chair Reports

- A. Carol Lazzarino spoke about Botanical Arts. (Recorder data)
- B. Caroline Kessman asked everyone helping at Earth Day Every Day on Saturday, April 22, 2023 to please wear their WGC shirts.
- C. Stormi Bivin mentioned that Dee Rolfe submitted the first entry for the Horticulture show. The entry forms and entry cards are posted on the WGC website. Please send the completed paperwork to either Stormi Bivin or Petra Russell by April 1, 2023. Stormi and Petra will be holding a grooming workshop, sharing useful tips to help prepare for this show, on Friday, March 10, 2023 from 10:30am to noon. It will be in the Live 360 room at the Wellington Mall.

IV. Executive Committee Reports

- A. President - Maria Wolfe
 1. Maria thanked everyone who contributed food for today's meeting and mentioned there was a sign up sheet for the next meeting on April 3, 2023.
 2. The Penny Pines donation container was passed around to help replant Florida forests. Last month, we collected \$100 in donations for Seagrass Restoration and we received a thank you note from the Florida Oceanographic Society.
 3. Our next Sip 'n Stroll is Friday, March 10, 2023 at the

home of GiGi Bard from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. Bring whatever drink you'd like to sip and an appetizer to share with everyone. Tracy's Bistro Restaurant gave GiGi a \$100 gift card which will be raffled off!

4. The May Day Spring Luncheon will be on Monday, May 1, 2023 beginning at 11:00am at the Wellington National Golf Club. The cost for the luncheon is \$50. We honor our scholarship recipients at the luncheon. Additionally, there will be someone there doing "fairy hair".

5. The Spring District X meeting, "Bee the Solution", will be held at the Westchester Country Club on Thursday, April 27, 2023. You can register at www.DistrictX.org. Kevin Brown from Seagrass Restoration and Sea Turtles will be speaking and there will be floral design programs. Additionally, Maria Wolfe will be conducting this meeting as our new District X director.

6. The FFGC convention will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, April 19-20, 2023 at the Embassy Suites in Kissimmee, FL.

7. The Environmental Studies class will be presented via Zoom on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 11-12, 2023. There will also be a landscape design class. Register at Gardenclub.org to attend and continue learning. All are eligible for the Education Reimbursement program.

8. The New Member Reception luncheon will be held on Wednesday, March 29, 2023 at 11:30am in the Lakeview room at the WCC. Please RSVP Maria Wolfe.

B. Recording Secretary, Amy Schwed, asked for the minutes of the February 6, 2023 meeting to be approved. There were no additions or corrections and they were unanimously approved.

C. The Treasurer's Report by Danese Sloan-Kendall are attached to these minutes. She asked all committee chairs to submit their requests for next year's budget by March 15, 2023.

V. Committee Chair Reports, continued

D. Alison Albury, Membership Chair, introduced our guests this month: Sera Peat, Edie Keating, Cele Cohen, Rochelle Ptito, Caroll Raskin, Phyllis Levison, Jeannette Nadle, Barbara O'Reilly, Jessica

Katz, Caroline Willi, Lock McElvy and Will Wood. Our new members Neera Lumish and Tara Hunter who joined this month and Linda Mackin who joined in February were introduced and welcomed. They were given their membership booklets and pin, as well as a small gift. Alison also thanked all those members who renewed. It was suggested that we create a “greeting committee” for guests and new members. Additionally, Alison asked everyone to check their current yearbooks to see if any changes needed to be made. Call Carol Ralph immediately if you have any changes. We were reminded to hand in our name tags at the end of each meeting.

E. Joyce Smith, chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the proposed slate of Officers for 2023-2025 as follows: President - Carol Ralph, 1stVP - Petra Russell, 2ndVP - Kristi Floyd, Treasurer - not known yet, Assistant Treasurer - Marianne Forrest, Recording Secretary - not known yet and Corresponding Secretary - Jan Seagrave. Danese Sloan-Kendall agreed to continue as Treasurer pending approval of a change in the Articles. Nominations will be accepted from the floor for Treasurer and Recording Secretary at the April 3, 2023 meeting.

F. Lisa Ferrano spoke about SEEK - Saving Earth’s Environment through Knowledge. They have an environmental camp for teens in 9th, 10th, and 11th grade that runs from June 11, 2023 through June 14, 2023. It is free to attend except for a \$25 registration fee. The WGC covers the rest of the cost. On the last day of the camp, the teens receive career choice information on horticulture, botany, wild life, environment, etc. If you know of any worthwhile candidate, please notify Lisa Ferrano.

G. Carol Ralph spoke about the next Around & About which will be on Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 10:30am. It is the Equestrian Lunch Tour at Wellington International and costs \$45. It includes lunch, a tour of the facility, vendors and more. Please sign up if you are interested. Next month’s Around & About will be on Thursday, April 13, 2023 at Palm Beach State College, Loxahatchee Groves campus and features native orchids. Dr. Vetaley Stashenko will be the tour guide. Please wear close toed shoes and long pants. Lunch will follow for those interested at Il Pomodoro.

H. Stormi Bivin spoke about Unsolicited Landscape Design

Awards. There are 4 categories: small business, public facility, private facility and private residence (not in a gated community); all as viewed from the street. Fill out a nominating form, include photos and send to Stormi by March 31, 2023. Judges are landscape design consultants. The landscaping must be at least one year old and can be maintained either privately or professionally.

I. The Butterfly Garden at Wellington Environmental Preserve at the MSD Everglades Habitat will have its next grooming on Thursday, March 30, 2023. If you plan to help, please bring gloves and cutters.

J. & K. Diane Rice spoke about going to see the “Path of the Panther” movie on Thursday, March 9, 2023 at a cost of \$11.01. This movie ties in well with our Environmental interests, specifically the Florida Panther, which is on the extinct list. She also spoke about possibly going to the Midnight Turtle Walk on Tuesday, June 6, 2023 as that date is 2 days after the full moon when the turtles should be on the move. The cost would be \$15 per person. Sign up if you are interested.

VI. Fundraisers

L. Carol Ralph discussed the Plant Sale coming up on Saturday, April 22, 2023. She asked if anyone had a truck that could be used to pick up plants. She will be getting plants for the plant sale from Green Seasons Nursery. All volunteers at the Plant Sale were asked to wear their WGC shirts. She plans to have 6-8 tables set up and needs to borrow 5-7 tables. Additionally, Carol needs volunteers to both work the plant sale tables and help kids at their craft table. Let’s all help advertise this event.

M. JoAnn Akins told us that we made \$142 today at the plant raffle.

VII. New Business

N. John Siena spoke about how he and Kathy Siena trying to get the VOW to create a Native Botanical Floral Garden/Education Center. The VOW recently bought 50 acres of land near the Environmental

Preserve so it's likely this will be happening. It will probably be a 5 year project. The BOD approved supporting this idea on March 1, 2023. The Tree Board also endorsed it. More support would be appreciated.

VIII. Name Tag Raffle

Carol Ralph won a plant donated by Stormi Bivin. Deb Russell and Ronnie Levay won gifts donated by Dee Rolfe.

The meeting adjourned at 11:46am.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Schwed, Recording Secretary